The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD

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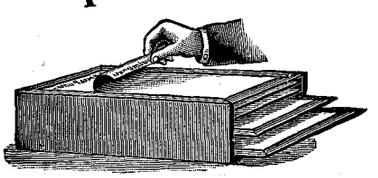

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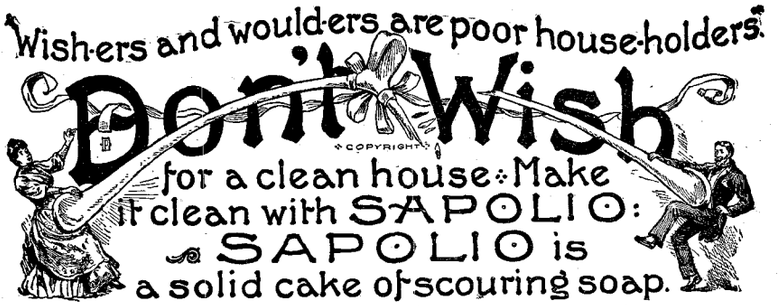
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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

CHARGES OF INCOMPETENCE IN THE ARMY.

POULTNEY BIGELOW'S correspondence to *Harper's Weekly* and the New York *Herald*, accusing the army administration of serious incompetence, if not political jobbery, has attracted more attention than any other criticisms of conditions existing at the various Southern camps. The New York *Times* has taken the lead in openly demanding the resignation of the Secretary of War, on the ground of alleged mismanagement, not only at Tampa, but at Camp Alger near Washington, and on the ground of general inefficiency in the conduct of military affairs since war began. Mr. Bigelow is a traveling journalist and claims acquaintance with the armies of England, Russia, Germany, and Austria. Writing from the camp at Tampa, May 22, he declared that "in no army of Europe, not even in Spain," had he seen "troops so badly treated through the incompetence of staff-officers, who to-day are strutting about in new uniforms when they ought to be whistled out of camp as frauds." Mr. Bigelow continued (*Harper's Weekly*, June 4):

"The war authorities have crowded together in and about Tampa several thousand men on the plausible pretext that in a big camp of this kind the troops could be exercised in large bodies, and the superior officers thus get familiar with brigade and divisional formation. We must bear in mind that most of our troops have never since the Civil War been brought together in larger bodies than a few companies at a time. Many colonels of regiments have never until this war seen all their men together on a parade-ground. Brigadier-generals have been created who have never seen the regiments that are to constitute their brigade. We have for this war laid out a complicated scheme of army organization, and entrusted the working of it in most instances to men who scarcely know the manual of arms.

"Let us tell the truth, disagreeable as it is. We are strong enough to bear it, and to profit by it.

"While the nation has been patriotically voting men and money for this campaign of alleged philanthropy, promotions have not been made wholly from deserving officers whose lives have been spent in active military work, but from the ranks of politicians, who may have had a smattering of militia drill, or may have worn a uniform forty years ago.

"To-day, thirty days after the declaration of war, there has not been held at Tampa a single military field exercise likely to be of service to generals of brigade or division, let alone an army corps. The main reason is, no doubt, that there are no brigadiers or major-generals in Tampa who would know how to go to work in the matter. . . . . .

"There is no head to the army. The railway, express, telegraph, steamship, and other corporations are getting fat out of this war; so are all contractors who deal with politics. The more inefficient the army, the better it suits them. If this war should be dragged out for a year or so they would be more than delighted. Meanwhile brave boys in blue will be dying in the heat of Tampa, to say nothing of the Cuban swamps. And the newspapers will be telling the same old lie—that all this is the inevitable consequence of war.

"But it is no such thing. The United States army has competent officers. They are, however, not consulted.

"There are those who hold that it is unpatriotic to lay bare the faults of the army at a time when the enemy may profit by the news. My answer is that the enemy already knows all this much better than do the people whose money is paying for this war. . . . . .

"We can thrash Spain any time we choose. But just now it would do us all much more good to discover why, thirty days after war is declared, our troops are losing their vitality in Florida, with not a single regiment fit to take the field."

The same issue of *Harper's Weekly* contained a letter from another correspondent, Caspar Whitney, dated, however, May 26, four days later than that of Mr. Bigelow, which described the army as ready to fight:

"There are now here 15,500 troops, and at Lakeland, forty miles away, are 3,300 more, making a total of 18,800 men.

"Of these, 14,500 are infantry, 3,300 cavalry, 1,000 artillery. Six thousand infantrymen are volunteers, comprising Second Georgia, which includes the famous Savannah company organized in 1802; First Florida, Thirty-second Michigan, Third Ohio, Second Massachusetts, Seventy-first New York.

"Of the artillery 700 are divided among the ten light batteries, and 300 make a recently organized siege train which will be considerably increased; there is also, of course, the usual and necessary engineer corps. There are 22 transports at Port Tampa under steam, with the gunboats *Helena* and *Bancroft* guarding the harbor, and the commissary department has ninety days' rations for 75,000 men. The men are all fit and eager to fight. The horses and mules average higher than any similar collections I have ever seen. The outfit could be loaded and on its way rejoicing within four days after the word.

"This is not a large force, especially when it is remembered that Spain has in Cuba certainly five and perhaps seven to eight times the number of soldiers. But it is sufficient perhaps to put well into action the movement that must end in the expulsion of the Spaniards."

Richard Harding Davis took issue with Mr. Bigelow's statements in a letter from Tampa to the New York *Herald* (June 7), quoting the chief surgeon of the Fifth Army Corps to the effect that the army is "the healthiest in history," quoting also a German military *attaché* as saying that the rations served at Tampa are as good as those served to any continental army and in much

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greater quantity, and quoting General Miles, commander-in-chief, as follows:

"There is not a regiment belonging to the regular army that is not ready now to take the field and that has not been ready for months. Before war was declared I wished to concentrate the army at Chickamauga, but the Secretary of War was of the opinion that such a movement would be considered an act of war—that it would be a menace—so I told him that wherever the regiments were they were ready to move at the pressure of a button, and when war was finally declared they did move from the mountain countries, from the lake countries, from Montana, Iowa, and California. They moved like clockwork. They were equipped with everything—transportation, camp outfit, and everything—and they are all ready and as fit to-day as they were then. I have never been so proud as I was yesterday, when I rode through the camps of the Fifth Army Corps and saw the magnificent condition and physical perfectness of our men. There is no army corps anywhere in the world that is better supplied with men and officers of courage, fortitude, and intelligence."

Mr. Davis added:

"That some official action will be taken in regard to this [Mr. Bigelow's] article is generally believed. Every one knows that mistakes have been made and that the condition of the volunteers is bad, but this is no time to print news of such a nature, and it is certainly not the time now, or later, to print reckless and untrue statements concerning our regular army."

Mr. Bigelow replied in *The Herald*, June 9:

"The camp at Tampa is a disgraceful evidence either of political jobbery or of equally gross incompetence. If this were in Spain we should say that a secretary of war willing to accept the responsibility for locating troops at Tampa must be either corrupt or otherwise unfit for office. Mr. Alger accepts responsibility for Tampa—clear proof that he knows as little about it as Mr. Davis. . . . . .

"I have accused the army administration of serious incompetence, if not political jobbery, and I cheerfully renew this charge, because it is well founded and because it is not too late to undo much of the mischief that has been done.

"Can you ask more evidence of political jobbery than that, with the whole of Florida to choose from, our Secretary of War should have insisted upon locating our main army of invasion at a point where only one line of railway could furnish the supplies, where that one line of railway owned a virtual monopoly of all transportation, and where the Government pays two cents a gallon for water consumed?

"Close to Tampa are camping-grounds where the men would have had abundant water supply, and where two competing roads would have greatly facilitated the commissary question. Why did not the War Department choose such a place? Why did the Secretary of War treat as an impertinence any reference to the bad state of things at Tampa? Why are all regular army officers outspoken on this subject when they are talking to a friend, and why are they afraid to be quoted?

"The reason is that they all feel that some one at the head has a political or pecuniary interest in perpetuating things as they are, and that officers are not thanked for telling the truth. . . . .

"What our men need now is not camp hardships, but such a storing up of vitality as will enable them to withstand the privations that will come when the real fighting commences.

"Our men are not the better for bad food, for pork and beans as an exclusive tropical diet. They are now losing rather than storing up vitality. Tampa is so hot and devitalizing that the men are not able to do a day's field work, and without constant practise of this kind they will be lacking in one of the essential qualities of a modern soldier. . . . . .

"I hope Mr. Davis has misrepresented his other informers as cruelly as he has the language of General Miles.

"Just think for a moment of a general talking of an army in perfect condition when not a regiment has wagons for the transport of its necessary baggage! Just think of a 'perfect army' with half the men raw recruits! Think of a 'perfect army' going into the hottest country on earth with the same clothes they would wear at Klondike. And finally, think of a 'perfect army' lumbered up with a lot of boy colonels and captains of cracker-boxes!

"The whole thing would be funny if brave men were not the victims of this scandalous state of things.

"The army has been made a means of political jobbery to an extent undreamed of even at the beginning of the Civil War. The President is too weak to check an appointment, no matter how scandalous. Every regular soldier blushed at the thought of epaulets upon Russell Harrison and a whole lot of the same stripe. Mr. Davis had the courage to decline an appointment of like import, and I honor him for it.

"What the country needs now from the pen of gifted men like Mr. Davis is not that they should become vulgar reporters of other men's interested utterances, but that they should fearlessly seek and publish the truth. They may regret it for a day or so, but in the long run they will reap the esteem of the regular army and honest people generally.

"Mr. Davis says that official notice is to be taken of my alleged treasonable utterances. What rubbish! We are Americans, not Frenchmen. We are strong enough to hear the truth about ourselves, and to profit by it. Let the Spaniards know all there is to know. Why should they not? We show all our chaos to the military *attachés* now at Tampa; why should we imagine that Spain knows nothing of this? Spain knows that we are not fit to invade Cuba, and will not be until late in November. She is anxious to have us invade immediately, for she would like to see our men die away in the trenches from yellow fever and other ills. She chuckles when she finds high officials brag about military efficiency, because this talk creates false confidence in people who don't know what war is. . . . . .

"Nobody pretends that anybody can make a good engineer on a man-of-war; not even Mr. Davis would consent to the proposition that any one could take to novel-writing.

"Yet the duties of army officers are difficult and delicate, and all the four years at West Point are none too many for teaching men the elements of that great profession.

"But unfortunately for us, politicians have, in times of peace, found that in the army they could find posts for many of their friends, and so long as peace lasted these officers have managed to strut about in their uniforms with about as good an air as the professional. The people at large have been encouraged in the idea that any one could make a good soldier, but this idea is likely to be rudely dispelled when the strain of real war is felt.

"General Miles would, I am sure, be supported by public opinion if he should to-day insist upon encamping our men in the most healthful parts of our beautiful Atlantic coast line. About Newport would do very well. There they should be drilled until they are ready to march against the enemy—and the Spaniard would then realize that we meant real business."

Meantime it is supposed that over 20,000 troops under General Shafter are about to cooperate with the navy at Santiago, and General Alger, the Secretary of War, is quoted by the New York *Herald* of June 11 as saying, "In two weeks the army will be ready for war." He is quoted farther as follows:

"When war was declared we were unprepared, yet obstacles almost insurmountable have been overcome. I do not believe that history records an instance where so much has been done in a military campaign of this magnitude in the brief time that has elapsed since hostilities began. I challenge the records on this point.

"The men having the most to say against our work in organizing the army are furthest from the truth, either through a wilful disregard of facts or ignorance. We are willing to be judged by what we have accomplished in preparing our armies for war.

"It is evident that the people have been misinformed as to what we are doing. To enlighten them I have directed the heads of the departments and bureaus to furnish me with their reports of what has been done up to date.

"When the people have learned the actual condition of affairs and realize what an enormous task we have performed in the brief time allowed us by the circumstances of war they will be entirely satisfied. The critics will be answered and the enemies of our army will have no ground to stand on.

"We are well satisfied. The situation is cheering. There is every reason for congratulations and none for doubt, as will be shown when this statement is made. In the first place, the country has infinite resources.

"There is an abundance of supplies at the disposal of the Government. Everything needed for the army is either on the ground or in the process of transit. Within a week or a fortnight at the

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most the required supplies and equipments will be delivered to the troops. In two weeks from this time every man in the army will be fully equipped for war.

"The first thing after ammunition and supplies was to get enough uniforms for the men suitable for a tropical campaign. Whole suits are necessary, of light-weight material. We have needed blankets. Of course, a man in thick clothing could get along in daytime. By throwing off his coat he would feel comparatively comfortable, but in the chill of night it is necessary to have blankets, and these could not be made in a day. . . . . .

"All the preliminary work has been done necessary to equip the entire army, volunteers and regulars—that is, 278,000 men all told. In the matter of clothing we have made great progress. Uniforms for 125,000 men were turned out in two weeks. The contracts for the whole amount have been let. The work is now being pushed night and day by four of the biggest concerns in the country, with a capacity of 15,000 complete uniforms a day. As I have said, at the end of two weeks all the clothing for the men will be finished."

"What were your great obstacles at the beginning?"

"Organization and drilling, and the work in that direction is not yet completed, but I may say that we would take our chances on that score were we forced to take the field with our armies today."

"It has been asserted that there was a great lack of arms and ammunition."

"Of course, at the outset we had nothing. I don't believe there was ever a nation on earth that attempted to embark in a war of such magnitude while so utterly unprovided with everything necessary for a campaign. We had nothing beyond a limited amount. Now we have plenty of arms, ammunition of all kinds, and plenty of smokeless powder, too, with the contracts for uniforms all let and partially filled."

WAR REVENUE, BONDS, AND SILVER COINAGE.

IF the war with Spain lasts a year, the expenses, on our side, as estimated by Senator Hale, of the committee on appropriations, will be from $600,000,000 to $700,000,000. The war-revenue bill providing for these expenses was passed by both houses of Congress last week. The bill was originally reported to the House from the ways and means committee, April 26, the day following the formal declaration of war by Congress. The House, within three days, passed the bill without amendment [see THE LITERARY DIGEST, May 7]. The finance committee of the Senate introduced the bill with numerous amendments (213, it is said) on May 16, the principal amendments proposed being a tax on corporations, the coinage of the seigniorage on silver bullion in the Treasury, and an issue of legal-tender notes instead of bonds. The Senate passed the bill twenty days later, June 4, having limited the corporation tax to sugar and oil refiners; having adopted (by a vote of 48 to 31) the Wolcott amendment for coinage of silver bullion at the rate of $4,000,000 per month and $42,000,000 seigniorage thereon, with issuance of silver certificates against it; having substituted (by a vote of 45 to 31) a reduced issue of bonds for the legal-tender provision; and having adopted (by a vote of 38 to 32) the Tillman amendment imposing a duty of 10 cents per pound on tea, the Chilton amendment taxing certain patented products and preparations, the White amendment taxing sleeping-car tickets, and the Mason amendment taxing adulterated flour. Mr. Morgan's income-tax amendment was rejected by a vote of 35 to 38.

The bill then went to a conference committee consisting of Senators Allison, Aldrich, and Jones; Representatives Dingley, Payne (New York), and Bailey. These conferrees accepted the principal Senate amendments above mentioned, except as to the method of coining silver bullion; they fixed the amount of bonds to be issued half-way between the Senate and House figures; and they accepted in the main all other features of the House bill. The House adopted the conference report after a few hours' debate, June 9, by a vote of 153 to 111; the Senate adopted it June 10 by a vote of 43 to 22.

The new taxes imposed by the bill are given in detail in another column. The loan provisions of the bill as enacted authorize the Secretary of the Treasury as follows:

First—to borrow, at not more than 3 per cent., such sums as, in his judgment, may be necessary to meet public expenditures, and to issue therefor certificates of indebtedness in denominations of $50, or multiples thereof, payable in one year, to an amount not exceeding $100,000,000.

Second—

"To borrow on the credit of the United States from time to time, as the proceeds may be required to defray expenditures authorized on account of the existing war (such proceeds when received to be used only for the purpose of meeting such war expenditures) the sum of $400,000,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, and to prepare and issue therefor coupon or registered bonds of the United States in such form as he may prescribe, and in denominations of twenty dollars or some multiple of that sum, redeemable in coin at the pleasure of the United States after ten years from the date of their issue, and payable twenty years from such date, and bearing interest payable quarterly in coin at the rate of three per centum per annum; and the bonds herein authorized shall be exempt from all taxes or duties of the United States, as well as from taxation in any form by or under state, municipal, or local authority: Provided, That the bonds authorized by this section shall be first offered at par as a popular loan under such regulations, prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, as will give opportunity to the citizens of the United States to participate in the subscriptions to such loan, and in allotting said bonds the several subscriptions of individuals shall be first accepted, and the subscriptions for the lowest amounts shall be first alloted: Provided further, that any portion of an issue of said bonds, not subscribed for as above provided, may be disposed of by the Secretary of the Treasury at not less than par, under such regulations as he may prescribe, but no commissions shall be allowed or paid thereon; and a sum not exceeding one tenth of one per centum of the amount of the bonds and certificates herein authorized is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to pay the expense of preparing, advertising, and issuing the same."

The law regarding coinage of silver bullion directs the Secretary of the Treasury—

"to coin into standard silver dollars as rapidly as the public interests may require, to an amount, however, of not less than one and one-half millions of dollars in each month, all the silver bullion now in the Treasury purchased in accordance with the provisions of the act approved July fourteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety [the Sherman law], entitled 'An act directing the purchase of silver bullion and the issue of treasury notes thereon, and for other purposes,' and said dollars, when so coined, shall be used and applied in the manner and for the purposes named in said act."

Attenuated Seigniorage Clause.—"The seigniorage clause, which was the chief point of disagreement with the House, has not been eliminated, but it has been attenuated to a degree where it will be the least hurtful, and will not be hurtful at all under the present administration of the Treasury. The silver bullion owned by the Government is to be coined at the rate of not less than $1,500,000, instead of $4,000,000, per month. Our currency, especially the silver part of it, was in a terrific tangle before, so far as popular comprehension goes. It was unintelligible to the masses, and it can not be made more so, but it may be more or less intelligible to economists, brokers, and others whose business it is to understand such things. To the latter class, the new scheme for dealing with seigniorage and silver dollars will be rather more obscure than anything that has preceded it, but they will be able to make their way through it, and they will find that it is not nearly so bad as the measure which passed the Senate.

"Altho the amount of the seigniorage comes t the same thing in the end as the Senate bill provided for, it is not likely to inflate the currency. The clause which provided for the issue of silver certificates against the Government's holdings of silver dollars is stricken out of the bill. The public will not take and use any more 'cart-wheel dollars' than they are now using. Consequently, the seigniorage dollars will simply rest in the Treasury. They can be paid out whenever there is a public demand for them, and when such a demand exists they will do the minimum of harm. They will add to the Government's demand liabilities, but any prudent Secretary of the Treasury will be able to manage them,

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as a prudent banker manages his note issues. It should not be overlooked that even under the existing law the coinage of this silver bullion was going on at a slow rate, dependent upon the presentation of treasury notes for redemption, and that seigniorage is one of the consequences of such coinage."—*The Evening Post* (*Ind.*), *New York*.

The Senate Vote for Bonds.—"The country is going to issue bonds—a lot of them, probably several hundreds of millions of dollars' worth. The Senate decided by a round majority yesterday that bonds the money influences must have. Of course Wolcott, Senator from Colorado, voted for them, as was to have been expected. He supported them in committee. Among others who voted for them were Carter of Montana, Warren and Clark of Wyoming, Shoup of Idaho, and Kyle of South Dakota. [The bond proposition received the votes of thirty-seven Republicans, seven Democrats, and one Populist. The Democrats who voted for it were Messrs. Caffery, Faulkner, Gorman, Gray, Lindsay, Mitchell, and Murphy, and the Populist was Mr. Kyle. No Republicans voted against the issue of bonds, the votes in opposition being cast by twenty-one Democrats, five Populists, and five Silver Republicans.—ED. LITERARY DIGEST.] When Kyle was sent back to the Senate he was a professed Populist, but it was charged that the Republican votes which elected him were given under an agreement that he would be available when required to support certain measures. The charge seems to have been well founded.

"Kyle holds till 1903, Clark goes out in March of 1899, Warren stays till 1901, Shoup will misrepresent Idaho till 1901, and in the same year Wolcott will cease to sit for Colorado. This is a good time for the people everywhere to put down some memoranda in their notebooks."—*The News* (*Pop.*), *Denver*.

Corporation and Legacy Taxes.—"The tax on corporations which the finance committee had arranged, which was of doubtful constitutionality, an unjust discrimination against corporations in favor of partnerships, and an infringement upon the sources of state revenue, was almost entirely removed. Only the tax on corporations refining sugar and petroleum and having a capital of more than $250,000 remains. It is highly objectionable to tax the large concerns and leave the small concerns in competition with them free; but we presume that not many concerns of less capital than a quarter of a million dollars are engaged in refining sugar and oil, and the discrimination against the sugar trust and the Standard Oil Company is a very moderate one, considering that a part, if not all, of the tax can be passed on to the consumers of these articles, and that the Populistic sentiment in Congress is very strong, and began by demanding a great deal.

"There is not much left, either, of Senator Chilton's amendment imposing a fine on every man whose ability enables him to keep an article on the market under a distinctive name. This is limited in the conference report to certain proprietary articles. The legacy and succession tax, however, remains in the bill, with rates rising to the absurd height of 15 per cent. The next time a wealthy resident of this city bequeaths anything over a million dollars for a library or a hospital, or the relief of the poor, or the endowment of a university, or the support of Christian missions, the United States will take $150,000 of the sum and leave just so much less for charity, religion, or other form of the public welfare. But $50,000 of the tax can be saved by making the amount of the bequest $999,000. It is one of the illustrations of the senseless antipathy of the Populists for corporations that this section imposes the highest rate of taxation upon legacies to corporations. Yet a legacy is never given to a money-making corporation; the only bequests to corporations are bequests to religious, charitable, educational, or other corporation existing for a public purpose. But because these societies are corporations they are objects of Populistic hatred, and excessively large deductions from gifts made to enable them to carry on their benevolent public services are to be taken by the United States Government."—*Journal of Commerce* (*Fin.*), *New York*.

"Taxing Wealth at Last."—"Among the new taxes that will fall distinctly on those best able to bear them are those on bankers and brokers, on the issue of securities and the transactions of boards of trade, on telegrams, long-distance telephone messages, wine, sleeping-car tickets, sugar and oil-refiners, and inheritances.

"It is said in Wall Street that the sugar and Standard Oil trusts need not worry about the taxes imposed upon them, because they can shift them upon the consumers of sugar and oil. This theory is more than doubtful. Some taxes can be shifted and others can not. A tax on the gross receipts of a corporation is likely to be found in the latter category. The tax of 1 cent on each sleeping-car ticket might be shifted. The Pullman Company might charge $2.51 for a berth for which it is now content to receive $2.50, and $5.01 for one that it now offers for $5. But there is reason to hope that even that corporation, moved by a compound emotion of patriotism and shame, may continue to sell tickets at the old extortionate price, and charge up the extra cent to profit and loss.

"The inheritance tax is a landmark in our national financial history, because it not only taxes wealth, instead of consumption, but it adopts the sound principle of graduation. Beginning at ¾ of 1 per cent. on direct inheritances of more than $10,000 and less than $25,000, it goes up to 15 per cent. on legacies of over $1,000,000 inherited by remote relatives or persons not connected with the testator by blood. As New York imposes a tax of 5 per cent. on collateral inheritances, some millionaire heirs in this State will have to contribute 20 per cent. of their legacies to the public. . . . . .

"The silver-coinage provision contains nothing to make silver men exult or gold men lament. The bond provision could have been dispensed with, but so long as bonds were to be issued there is no ground for serious quarrel with the methods adopted. In the absence of wretched and unexpected mismanagement, there is every reason to believe that the war will be over long before there is any occasion to issue all the bonds that have been authorized."—*The Journal* (*Dem.*), *New York*.

Duties Not Oppressive.—"We shall admit that war taxes are generally onerous. But the tax bill appears to have been in the main well considered. The stamp duties will not oppress anybody. The stamps on deeds and mortgages will be paid only by such as have property to deed and by mortgagors. Most of the extraordinary taxes will fall upon persons of means. The tax on luxuries will fall upon persons who can afford luxuries. The tax on tea was proposed by these grumblers, but it must be paid by all who use tea. It will perhaps shut out the vile stuff that is dumped into this market in such quantities. But the tax will not oppress anybody. In fact, it is doubtful if all of the taxes provided in the bill will be felt to any great extent by anybody. A few cents on articles entering into general consumption will produce a great revenue, yet amount to very little in the added cost of living. If we suppose that the average family consumes one pound of tea per month, the entire tax, if paid wholly by the consumers, will amount to $1.20 per year. The tax on beer, which seems to trouble Mr. Jones, will not be felt by anybody. Beer is not a necessary of life, and men who drink it should not complain."—*The North American* (*Rep.*), *Philadelphia*.

"The result is a set of compromises between the House and Senate, measures, some of which are not unsatisfactory. We think it would have been wiser to provide more largely for the issue of short-time interest-bearing certificates, to be refunded into long-time bonds, if the duration and cost of the war should necessitate. That view was neglected, however, and the financial compromise consists of providing for the issue of $400,000,000 long-time bonds, and a modified form of the seigniorage folly. . . . Considering the texture of the political genius that the country has to deal with in its national legislature, the occasion is not wholly devoid of food for felicitation that it got off so easily."—*The Dispatch* (*Ind. Rep.*), *Pittsburg*.

"These stamp taxes have one especial merit. People will know that they are paying them, which is more than can be said of the customs and internal-revenue taxes now in force. They will bring the war home to all classes, and when it is understood that a policy of annexation and imperialism means not merely the permanency of most of these taxes, but their extension, there will be some abatement in the present heedless clamor for distant colonies and their accompanying cost of an extensive and oppressive system of militarism."—*The Republican* (*Ind. Dem.*), *Springfield*.

"The tax on tea is an infraction of the free-breakfast-table policy, and, strangely enough, was inserted in the bill at the instance of a Democratic Senator. The amount expected from this source could have been spared, and there would have been a diplomatic point gained in heeding Japan's protest. The genuine triumphs to be recorded are the success of the fight for a popular loan, and the defeat of the fight for an issue of fiat money. The reversal of this result would have been a national calamity."—*The Star* (*Ind.*), *Washington*.

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WHAT THE WAR TAXES ARE.

WAR taxes are novel to the present generation in the United States, and the mere list of those imposed by the new war-revenue bill makes an interesting document. We present herewith a careful abstract of the text of the bill, which is entitled "An act to provide ways and means to meet war expenditures and for other purposes," and which becomes the law of the land until repealed by Congress. The act takes effect on the day next succeeding the date of its passage, except as otherwise specially provided for.

LIQUOR TAXES.—A tax of $2 on all beer, lager beer, ale, porter, and other similar fermented liquors, brewed or manufactured, sold or stored in warehouse or removed for consumption or sale, for every barrel containing not more than 31 gallons; and at a like rate for any other quantity or fractional part of a barrel, with a discount of 7½ per cent. on all sales by collectors to brewers of the stamps provided for the payment of the tax. An additional proviso was added, as follows, by the conference: "That the additional tax imposed in this section on all fermented liquors stored in warehouses, to which a stamp had been affixed, shall be assessed and collected in the manner now provided by law for the collection of taxes not paid by stamps."

SPECIAL TAXES (from July 1).—1. Bankers employing a capital not exceeding $25,000, $50; employing a capital exceeding $25,000, for every additional $1,000, $2, surplus included in capital. The amount of such annual tax to be computed on the basis of the capital and surplus for the preceding fiscal year. Savings-banks having no capital stock, and whose business is confined to receiving deposits and loaning or investing the same for the benefit of their depositors, and which do no other business of banking, are not subject to this tax.

2. Brokers, $50, but any person having paid the special tax as a banker shall not be required to pay the special tax as a broker.

3. Pawnbrokers, $20.

4. Commercial brokers, $20.

5. Custom-house brokers, $10.

6. Proprietors of theaters, museums, and concert-halls in cities of more than 25,000 population, $100. This does not include halls rented or used occasionally for concerts or theatrical representations.

7. Circuses, $100. No special tax paid in one State is to exempt exhibitions from tax in another State, but one special is to be imposed for exhibition within any one State.

8. Proprietors or agents of all other public exhibitions or shows for money, not enumerated here, $10.

9. Bowling-alleys and billiard-rooms, $5 for each alley or table.

TOBACCO, CIGARS, CIGARETTES, AND SNUFF.—In lieu of the tax now imposed by law, a tax of 12 cents a pound upon all manufactured tobacco and snuff, sold or removed for sale; upon cigars and cigarettes manufactured and sold, or removed for sale, the following taxes to be paid by the manufacturer: $3.60 a thousand on cigars weighing more than three pounds per 1,000; $1 a pound on cigars weighing not more than three pounds a 1,000; $3.60 a thousand on cigarettes weighing more than three pounds a 1,000, and $1.50 a 1,000 on cigarettes weighing not more than three pounds a 1,000. The compromise proviso in regard to the taxation of the stock on hand provides that stamps canceled subsequent to April 14 shall entitle the seller to a reduction of one half the difference between the old and new rate. And "dealers having on hand less than 1,000 pounds of manufactured tobacco and 20,000 cigars or cigarettes on the day succeeding the date of the passage of the bill are relieved from the necessity of making returns, and thus relieved from the necessity of paying the tax."

TOBACCO-DEALERS AND MANUFACTURERS (from July 1).—Dealers in leaf tobacco whose annual sales do not exceed 50,000 pounds, each $6. Those whose annual sales exceed 50,000 and not 100,000, $12; and if their annual sales exceed 100,000 pounds, $24. Dealers in other tobacco whose annual sales exceed 50,000 pounds, $12. Those selling their own products at the place of manufacture are exempted from this tax. Manufacturers of tobacco whose annual sales do not exceed 50,000 pounds, $6. Manufacturers whose sales exceed 50,000 and not 100,000 pounds, $12; manufacturers whose sales exceed 100,000 pounds, $24. Manufacturers of cigars whose annual sales do not exceed 100,000 cigars, $6; manufacturers whose sales exceed 100,000 and not 200,000 cigars, $12. Manufacturers whose sales exceed 200,000 cigars, $24. Any person who carries on the business on which special taxes are imposed by this act without having paid the special tax is made guilty of a misdemeanor, the penalty being a fine from $100 to $500, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.

It is provided that until appropriate stamps are furnished, the stamps heretofore used to denote the payment of the internal-revenue tax on fermented liquors, tobacco, snuff, cigars, and cigarettes may be imprinted with a suitable device to denote the new rate of tax, and shall be affixed to all packages containing articles on which the tax imposed by this act is paid. Proprietors of proprietary articles are given the privilege of furnishing their own dies or designs for stamps, a failure to perform which act is punishable by a fine of not less than $50 nor more than $500 or by imprisonment, not to exceed six months, or both. Evasion of the stamp law is punishable by a fine not exceeding $200. Government, state, county, and municipal bonds are exempted from the law, and also stock and bonds of cooperative building and loan associations whose stock does not exceed $10,000, and building and loan associations or companies that make loans only to shareholders.

Section 18 provides for a tax stamp on telegraph messages, but exempts messages of government officers and employees on official business and also messages of telegraph and railroad companies over their own lines. Section 20 makes evasion of the provisions of schedule B relative to drugs, medicines, perfumery, etc., punishable by a fine not to exceed $500 or imprisonment not to exceed six months, or both. Uncompounded medicines, or those put up and sold at retail, on prescriptions, are not included in the taxable articles. Section 24 adds the tax on proprietary articles to the duty on them.

SCHEDULE A, STAMP TAXES (from July 1).—Bonds, debentures, or certificates of indebtedness by any association or corporation, on each $100 of face value or fraction thereof, five cents, and on each original issue of certificates of stock, on each $100 of face value or fraction thereof, five cents; and on sales, or agreements to sell, or transfers of stock, on each $100 of face value or fraction thereof, two cents. Upon each sale or agreement to sell any products or merchandise at any exchange or board of trade, for each $100 in value, one cent, and for each additional $100 or fractional part thereof, one cent. Bank check, draft, or certificate of deposit not drawing interest, or order for payment of money drawn upon or issued by any bank, trust company, etc., two cents. Bills of exchange (inland), draft, certificate of deposit drawing interest, or order for payment of money otherwise than at sight or on demand, or any promissory note, except bank-notes issued for circulation, and for each renewal of the same, for not exceeding $100, two cents, and for each additional $100 or fractional part thereof, two cents. Bills of exchange (foreign) or letters of credit, if drawn singly for not exceeding $100, four cents, and for each additional $100 or fractional part thereof, four cents. If drawn in sets of two or more, for every bill, of each set, where the sum does not exceed $100 in any foreign currency, two cents, and for each additional $100 or fractional part thereof, two cents. Bill of lading or receipt (other than charter party) for goods or merchandise to be exported to any foreign port, 10 cents.

EXPRESS AND FREIGHT.—To each bill of lading, etc., a one-cent stamp, but one bill of lading shall be required on bundles of newspapers when enclosed in one general bundle. Penalty, $50.

A tax of one cent is imposed for every telephone message for which over 15 cents is charged. Any telegraphic message one cent. Indemnifying bonds, 50 cents.

Certificates of profits of any association and on all transfers thereof, on each $100 of face value, two cents. Certificates of damage, or otherwise, issued by port warden or marine surveyor, 25 cents. Certificate of any other description, 10 cents. Charter party, if registered tonnage of the vessel does not exceed 300 tons, $3; exceeding 300 tons and not exceeding 600, $5; exceeding 600 tons, $10.

Contract, broker's note, or memorandum of sale of property of any description issued by brokers, for each note or memorandum, 10 cents.

Conveyance or deed for real estate in which the consideration exceeds $100 and does not exceed $500, 50 cents, and for each additional $500, 50 cents.

Entry of goods at any custom-house not exceeding $100 in value, 25 cents; exceeding $100 and not exceeding $500, 50 cents; exceeding $500, $1. Entry for withdrawal of goods from customs bonded warehouse, 50 cents.

Insurance: Life, on each policy for each $100, 10 cents on the amount insured. Policies on the industrial or weekly plan, 40 per cent. of the amount of the first weekly premium. Fraternal beneficiary societies and orders, farmers' local cooperative companies, employees' relief associations, conducted for the exclusive benefit of members, are exempted. Insurance (marine), inland fire, each policy, one half of one cent on each $1, cooperative and mutual companies exempted. Insurance (casualty, fidelity, and guaranty), each policy and bond for performance of duties of any position or other obligation of the nature of indemnity, and each contract or obligation guaranteeing validity of bonds or other obligations issued by any public body, or guaranteeing titles to real estate or mercantile credits, executed by surety company, upon the amount of premium charged, one-half cent on each $1.

Lease, land or tenement, not exceeding one year, 25 cents; exceeding one year and not exceeding three, 50 cents; exceeding three years, $1.

Manifest for custom-house entry or clearance of cargo, if vessel's tonnage does not exceed 300 tons, $1; exceeding 300 and not exceeding 600, $3; exceeding 600 tons, $5.

Mortgage of property, exceeding $1,000 and not exceeding $1,500, 25 cents, and on each $500 in excess of $1,500, 25 cents.

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Passage ticket by any vessel from United States to a foreign port, cost not exceeding $30, $1; $60, $3; more than $60, $5.

Power of attorney, with exceptions to charitable associations, pensioners, and the like, 10 cents and 25 cents. Protests, 25 cents.

Warehouse receipts, 25 cents.

Stamp duties of this schedule on manifests, bills of lading, and passage-tickets shall not apply to vessels plying between ports of the United States and ports in British North America.

SCHEDULE B, STAMP TAXES (from July 1).—Medicinal proprietary articles and preparations, including those under patent or trade-mark, in packet, box, bottle, vial, or other enclosure, retail price not exceeding 5 cents, ⅛ of one cent; 10 cents, ⅜; 15 cents, ⅜; 25 cents, ⅝; and for each additional 25 cents or fraction thereof ⅝. Perfumery and cosmetics, the same rate. Packages of chewing-gum or substitutes, four cents on every dollar of retail value.

Sparkling or other wines, pint bottles, 1 cent; larger bottles, 2 cents.

EXCISE TAXES.—Refiners of petroleum or sugar, owners or controllers of pipe-lines for transporting oil or other products, annual tax of ¼ of 1 per cent. on gross receipts exceeding $250,000. Penalty of $1,000 to $10,000 for each refusal to make a monthly return of receipts, or making a false return.

On every seat sold (after July 1) in palace or parlor car, and berth in sleeping-car, 1 cent.

INHERITANCE TAXES.—Legacies and distributive shares of personal property—over $10,000 and less than $25,000. Beneficiary lineal issue or ancestor, brother or sister of decedent, 75 cents for each $100. Beneficiary descendant of brother or sister of deceased, $1.50 per $100. Beneficiary, brother or sister of father or mother deceased, or descendant of same, $3 per $100. Beneficiary brother or sister of grandfather or grandmother deceased, or descendant of same, $4 per $100. Beneficiary, further removed by blood, stranger in blood, or body politic or corporate, $5 per $100. Legacies or property passing by will or law to husband or wife of deceased are exempted.

On legacies of $25,000 to $100,000 the tax is multiplied by 1½; $100,000 to $500,000, multiplied by 2; 500,000 to $1,000,000 multiplied by 2½; exceeding $1,000,000, multiplied by 3.

MIXED FLOUR (60 days from date of passage).—"The food product made from wheat mixed or blended in whole or in part with any other grain or other material, or the manufactured product of any other grain or other material than wheat." Makers, packers, or repackers of mixed flour before engaging in business shall pay a special tax of $12 per annum. Packages must be branded, labeled, and stamped. Barrels or packages of mixed flour shall not exceed 196 pounds, and upon the manufacture and sale of it the tax is graded: 4 cents on 196 to 98 pounds; 2 cents on 98 to 49 pounds; 1 cent on 49 to 24½ pounds; ½ cent on 24½ pounds or less.

TEA.—Upon tea of all kinds, when imported from foreign countries, a duty of 10 cents per pound.

[The bond and coinage provisions of this law are given in the preceding "topic" in this issue of THE LITERARY DIGEST.]

REFERENDUM IN SAN FRANCISCO'S NEW CHARTER.

BY a majority of about 2,000 votes, the people of San Francisco last month adopted a new charter, which contains the most advanced ideas of democratic government yet embodied in our municipal administration. The charter follows the prevalent tendency of concentrating power in the hands of the mayor, and provides for the civil-service system of appointments; but at the same time it establishes a system of referendum, which is described in interesting detail by the Chicago *Record* as follows:

"Upon the presentation of a petition bearing the names of a number of voters equal to 15 per cent. of the vote cast at the last state or municipal election, any ordinance set forth in the petition shall be submitted to the people for approval or rejection at the next election. If a majority of the votes cast upon such ordinance shall be in its favor, such ordinance shall take effect as a law of the city, and the same shall not be repealed by the city legislative body. Propositions for its repeal may, however, be submitted to the people by the board. Amendments to the charter itself must likewise be submitted to popular vote upon petition of 15 per cent. of the voters.

"The provisions in regard to street-railway franchises limit grants to twenty-five years, at the end of which time the track and roadbed are to become the absolute property of the city, without any money payment therefor. When application is made for a franchise the board of supervisors shall decide whether such franchise ought to be granted. If so, an ordinance must be framed and published and the privilege must be disposed of at public auction. The bidders must agree to pay to the city a percentage of the gross receipts, which must in no case be less than 3 per cent. for the first five years, 4 per cent. for the next ten years, and 5 per cent. for the last ten years. The vote of three fourths of all the members of the board of supervisors is necessary to pass a franchise ordinance, and a five-sixths vote is necessary to pass over the mayor's veto. After a franchise shall have been granted under these conditions it shall not go into effect for thirty days after its passage. If within the thirty days a petition signed by 15 per cent. of the voters should be presented in opposition to the ordinance, it must then be submitted to popular vote before going into effect.

"The charter declares it to be 'the purpose and intention of the people of the city and county that its public utilities shall be gradually acquired and ultimately owned by the city and county.' To this end provision is made for taking over such public utilities as occasion shall arise for their acquisition, generally with a referendum upon every specific proposition looking to that end."

This charter was prepared by a committee of fifteen elected by popular vote, cities being allowed thus to frame charters under the state constitution. It is stated that the next legislature will have the privilege of a veto of this document, and, if it shall approve, the charter becomes virtually a local constitution for the city of San Francisco, with which the legislature in future will be unable to interfere. It is to take effect January 1, 1900.

The adoption of this charter was vigorously opposed by leading dailies like the San Francisco *Chronicle* and *Call*. The latter paper says of the result, in part:

"The truth is, the new charter was adopted, not because a majority of those who voted for it have read and digested it, but because there is a general desire for a change in our organic system. This was the great influence which operated to carry the new constitution in 1879. The campaign for that instrument was accompanied, as this one has been, by a weak grand jury, a corrupt school board, a rotten board of supervisors, and a disgraceful legislature. Probably the legislature of 1878 was the worst that ever assembled anywhere. It is unavailing to reason with the people when such object-lessons in corruption are before their eyes as have been before the eyes of the people of this city during the past six months.

"But the whys and wherefores of the late campaign are no longer of interest. The existent fact is, one fifth of the voters of the city have fastened upon it an entirely new experiment in charter legislation. Should the legislature ratify it, everybody should thereafter endeavor to elect honest officials under it—particularly an honest mayor. Since 1879 the Supreme Court has delivered a thousand decisions interpreting the new constitution, and yet that instrument, which is shorter than the charter, is still in question. We practically know nothing upon the subject of making charters, and it is not improbable that when the document carried on Thursday [May 26] comes to be subjected to legal scrutiny much of it will be found unconstitutional.

"One thing, however, may be set down as settled beyond doubt. Unless the people capture the mayor and maintain possession of him they will be undone. Nearly all municipal power has been transferred from the present sources and lodged in the mayor. If the predatory classes are permitted to control this official they will make short work of the taxpayers. There is not much reason to fear the bugaboo corporations, but there is great reason to fear the political bosses who know so well how to organize and win at the ballot-boxes when there is plunder in sight. Under the divided responsibility of the consolidation act there has been during forty years very little waste and corruption. We trust the centralized government the people have now adopted will make a similar record."

We quote two comments on San Francisco's choice from other cities. The Chicago *Inter Ocean* (owned by Charles F. Yerkes, the street-railway magnate) says:

"San Francisco has adopted what is known as the initiative and referendum feature of communism. Social anarchists regard this as a step in the right direction. It will give the 'people' more

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and better opportunities to vote, and San Francisco's affairs in due time will be relegated for settlement to mass-meetings and torch-light processions. The one country in which the initiative and referendum succeeded beyond everybody's calculations, except the few who were wise enough to know where it would end, was Poland under the commonwealth. Nothing was done in Poland for two hundred years unless it was permitted by the initiative and referendum, and after two hundred years of trial there was no Poland on the map of Europe, nor has there been a Poland there since."

The conservative Boston *Transcript* says:

"This is a signal victory for the policy of direct legislation. It is by no means its first victory, but thus far it is its most significant. In Nebraska and Kansas this thoroughly democratic idea has found favor, but to be taken up with so much enthusiasm by the chief city of the Pacific slope marks a triumph for it in that great section which is a greater encouragement to its friends than anything which has preceded. . . . The adoption of the principle is the main thing. Its application must be more or less a matter of experiment. In some systems there is included the right of the people by a sufficient demand to terminate the service of an obnoxious official. Had the citizens of New York a leverage of this sort they might have felt disposed to employ it in view of the events of the past week in that city.

"But that is not the main purpose of the initiative and the referendum. It is perhaps of less importance that the people shall hold in their hands the power to regulate the official tenure of their public servants than that they shall be able to control to a large extent the acts of such officials, and propose measures of their own which under certain well-defined conditions have the force of commands. It is nothing to the discredit of this new phase of local government that it just now flourishes most in the comparatively new sections of the country. They are not as much bound by tradition or tied to custom there as in the East, and new ideas take root more readily and exploit themselves under more elastic conditions. If we have been somewhat doubtful whether any good thing could come out of a Populistic section, more confidence can be felt now that the movement has taken hold of as conservative a community as San Francisco.

"After all, what is all this but getting back to first principles? The terms and the forms may be unfamiliar, but the essence is ancient, almost primitive. It is making the people once more directly responsible for the trust that is reposed in them. It holds the government up to the moral plane of the people themselves, and that is something that can not always be said of the more highly elaborated municipal methods of our older cities. San Francisco will now become a very interesting object-lesson to the municipal sisterhood, and her success under the new charter will win for her the compliment of wide imitation."

HOBSON'S EXPLOIT AT SANTIAGO.

TO the list of naval heroes of the world must now be added the name of Richmond P. Hobson and his seven companions—Daniel Montague, chief master-at-arms; George Charette, gunner's mate; J. C. Murphy, Osborn Deignan, Randolph Clausen, coxswain; George F. Phillips, machinist; Francis Kelly, water-tender—who sank the collier *Merrimac* in Santiago channel, June 3, flying the American flag and facing the direct fire of Spanish fortifications and a Spanish fleet, in order to "bottle up" that fleet in the harbor. Admiral Sampson's official account of the historic exploit, addressed to the Navy Department, is as follows:

"Permit me to call your special attention to Assistant Naval Constructor Hobson. As stated in a special telegram, before coming here I decided to make the harbor entrance secure against the possibility of egress by Spanish ships by obstructing the narrow part of the entrance by sinking a collier at that point. Upon calling upon Mr. Hobson for his professional opinion as to a sure method of sinking the ship, he manifested the most lively interest in the problem. After several days' consideration he presented a solution which he considered would insure the immediate sinking of the ship when she reached the desired point in the channel. This plan we prepared for execution when we reached Santiago. The plan contemplated a crew of only seven men, and Mr. Hobson begged that it might be entrusted to him. The anchor chains were arranged on deck for both the anchors, forward and aft, the plan including the anchoring of the ship almost automatically.

"As soon as I reached Santiago and I had the collier to work upon, the details were completed and diligently prosecuted, hoping to complete them in one day, as the moon and tide served best for the first night after our arrival. Notwithstanding every effort, the hour of four o'clock in the morning arrived, and the preparation was scarcely completed. After a careful inspection of the final preparations I was forced to relinquish the plan for that morning, as dawn was breaking. Mr. Hobson begged to try it at all hazards.

"This morning [June 3] proved more propitious, as a prompt start could be made. Nothing could have been more gallantly executed. We waited impatiently after the firing by the Spanish had ceased. When they did not reappear from the harbor at six o'clock I feared that they had all perished. A steam launch which had been sent in charge of Naval Cadet Powell to rescue the men appeared at this time, coming out under a persistent fire of the batteries, but brought none of the crew. A careful inspection of the harbor from this ship showed that the vessel *Merrimac* had been sunk in the channel.

"This afternoon the chief-of-staff of Admiral Cervera came out under a flag of truce with a letter from the admiral extolling the bravery of the crew in an unusual manner.

"I can not myself too earnestly express my appreciation of the conduct of Mr. Hobson and his gallant crew. I venture to say that a more brave and daring thing has not been done since Cushing blew up the *Albemarle*.

"Referring to the inspiring letter which you addressed to the officers at the beginning of the war, I am sure you will offer a suitable reward to Mr. Hobson and his companions.

"I must add that Commander J. M. Miller relinquished his command with very great reluctance, believing he should retain his command under all circumstances. He was, however, finally convinced that the attempt of another person to carry out the multitude of details which had been in preparation by Mr. Hobson might endanger their proper execution. I therefore took the liberty to relieve him for this reason only. There were hundreds of volunteers who were anxious to participate. There were one hundred and fifty from the *Iowa*, nearly as many from this ship, and large numbers from all the other ships, officers and men alike. W. T. SAMPSON."

Before leaving the flag-ship, Hobson described his plan in these words:

"I shall go right into the harbor until about 400 yards past the Estrella battery, which is behind Morro Castle. I do not think they can sink me before I reach somewhere near that point. The *Merrimac* has 7,000 tons buoyancy, and I shall keep her full speed ahead. She can make about ten knots. When the narrowest part of the channel is reached I shall put her helm hard aport, stop the engines, drop the anchors, open the sea connections, touch off the torpedoes, and leave the *Merrimac* a wreck, lying athwart the channel, which is not as broad as the *Merrimac* is long.

"There are eight ten-inch improvised torpedoes below the water-line on the *Merrimac's* port side. They are placed on her side against the bulkheads and vital spots, connected with each other by a wire under the ship's keel. Each torpedo contains eighty-two pounds of gunpowder. Each torpedo is also connected with the bridge, and they should do their work in a minute, and it will be quick work even if done in a minute and a quarter.

"On deck there will be four men and myself. In the engine-room there will be two other men. This is the total crew, and all of us will be in our underclothing, with revolvers and ammunition in water-tight packing strapped around our waists. Forward there will be a man on deck, and around his waist will be a line, the other end of the line being made fast to the bridge, where I shall stand. By that man's side will be an ax. When I stop the engines I shall jerk this cord, and he will thus get the signal to cut the lashing which will be holding the forward anchor. He will then jump overboard and swim to the four-oared dingey, which we shall tow astern. The dingey is full of life buoys and is unsinkable. In it are rifles. It is to be held by two ropes, one

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made fast at her bow and one at her stern. The first man to reach her will haul in the tow line and pull the dingey out to starboard. The next to leave the ship are the rest of the crew. The quartermaster at the wheel will not leave until after having put it hard aport and lashed it so. He will then jump overboard.

"Down below, the man at the reversing gear will stop the engines, scramble up on deck, and get over the side as quickly as possible. The man in the engine-room will break open the sea connections with a sledge-hammer, and will follow his leader into the water. This last step insures the sinking of the *Merrimac*, whether the torpedoes work or not. By this time I calculate the six men will be in the dingey and the *Merrimac* will have swung athwart the channel, to the full length of her 300 yards of cable, which will have been paid out before the anchors were cut loose. Then all that is left for me is to touch the button. I shall stand on the starboard side of the bridge. The explosion will throw the *Merrimac* on her starboard side. Nothing on this side of New York city will be able to raise her after that."

"And you expect to come out of this alive?" he was asked.

"Ah! that is another thing," said the lieutenant. "I suppose the Estrella battery will fire down on us a bit, but the ships will throw their searchlights in the gunners' faces and they won't see much of us. Then, if we are torpedoed we should even then be able to make the desired position in the channel. It won't be so easy to hit us, and I think the men should be able to swim to the dinghy. I may jump before I am blown up, but I don't see that it makes much difference what I do. I have a fair chance of life either way. If our dingey gets shot to pieces, we shall then try to swim for the beach right under Morro Castle. We shall keep together at all hazards. Then we may be able to make our way alongside and perhaps get back to the ship. We shall fight the sentries or a squad until the last, and we shall only surrender to overwhelming numbers, and our surrender will only take place as a last and almost uncontemplated emergency."

The only deviation from this plan, so far as known, was in using a catamaran raft to escape upon, instead of the dingey, which, it is supposed, had been shot to pieces. The eight men (two slightly wounded) falling into the hands of the Spaniards, drew from the Spanish Admiral Cervera, who offered to exchange them for Spanish prisoners, this tribute in his message to Admiral Sampson:

"Your boys will be all right in our hands. Daring like theirs makes a bitterest enemy proud that his fellow men can be such heroes."

Commodore Schley, of the flying squadron off Santiago, said:

"History does not record an act of finer heroism. I watched the *Merrimac* as she made her way to the entrance of the harbor, and my heart sank as I saw the perfect hell of fire that fell upon those devoted men. I did not think it possible one of them could have gone through it alive. They went into the jaws of death. It was Balaklava over again, without the means of defense which the Light Brigade had. Hobson led a forlorn hope without the power to cut his way out. But fortune once more favored the brave, and I hope he will have the recognition and promotion he deserves. His name will live as long as the heroes of the world are remembered."

Mr. Hobson is twenty-eight years of age and a native of Alabama. He was graduated from the Naval Academy at the head of his class in 1889, won distinction in study of naval construction in France, was made assistant naval constructor in 1891, served in the Naval Intelligence Department and Bureau of Construction and Repair, and published several important naval works; he was assigned to the Brooklyn Navy Yard and later to the flag-ship *New York*. He started the system of sea duty for constructors, and also proposed, organized, and conducted a post-graduate course at the United States Naval Academy.

A Crowded Hour of Glorious Life.—"It was a daring exploit, maturely planned and bravely and brilliantly executed. Say what we will of heroes of peace and of civic courage equaling military, there is something in such a crowded hour of glorious life that sets the pulses leaping in unwonted fashion. The cool measuring of danger, joined with proud contempt of it; the importance of the end aimed at, and the complete success with which it was attained; the calm ignoring of the terrible risks run, and the entire self-effacement of the young officer and his heroic crew, make Lieutenant Hobson's deed one of the most notable in naval annals—and high and reckless daring is the characteristic note of naval annals. The fact that Hobson is a Southerner is also one to cause especial satisfaction both North and South. As a result of the Civil War, almost all the higher officers of the navy are now from the North; and it was a peculiarly happy thing that this strong appeal to a united national sentiment should have been made by a man from the South. . . . . .

"It was not a mere dash in the face of death in order to inflict more or less damage upon the enemy; it was a far-reaching plan, destined to change the whole naval situation, and to allow that more vigorous prosecution of offensive operations elsewhere, which is needed to bring the war to an earlier close. It was not strange that this quiet, studious young officer should have thought out the details of the scheme, and arranged everything with such cool and wise forethought; but that he should also have coveted the execution of his project in person, should have demanded it as a right, should have carried out his plan with such splendid courage and success—this is what makes the combination of personal qualities a little surprising. The famous Cushing, whose remarkable exploits in the Civil War have been revived for comparison with the feat at Santiago, was one whose delight was in danger and facing tremendous odds like a knight of the Middle Ages. But our retiring and scholarly naval constructor, Lieutenant Hobson, has shown that desperate daring may display itself in the studious type also. Known chiefly as a plodding student and a man of quiet tastes, he suddenly blazes out upon the world as of better stuff than many a roistering blade, worthy to take his stand with any of Kipling's 'gentlemen unafraid.'"—*The Evening Post, New York.*

Average Americans.—"Every now and again we hear warnings that the race is softening; that civilization is a doubtful benefit; that the effect of arts and cultivation is undermining to the sterner qualities by which nations are held together. The first chance for action in this war put an end to all that talk. Our soldiers and sailors are average Americans. They represent every class; they are tradesmen, clerks, farmers, herders, mechanics, laborers, clergymen, physicians, lawyers, millionaires, tramps, men of push and men who have to be pushed, big men, little men, wise men, and foolish ones, but in the stress of fight they are men alike. The exploit in the harbor of Santiago de Cuba was a more brilliant, more daring one even than the Charge of the Light Brigade. The brigade was armed; there was a faint hope, a hundredth of a chance that it might be able to cut its way through the opposing line of Russians and put them to rout, as troops had done a few times before; there was another hope, that, by a quick retreat in case the line was unbroken, the men might be withdrawn with only a moderate loss. Still, they were soldiers, they obeyed their orders, and an officer's blunder killed most of them. With Lieutenant Hobson it was different. He knew, when he took the dismantled *Merrimac* to sink in the channel of Santiago harbor, and thereby pen the Spanish fleet, that the chances of return were of the slightest. There was a chance of capture, but the chance of death by drowning or by shot was larger far."—*The Eagle, Brooklyn.*

Courage without a Chance to Fight.—"The earliest parallel in our navy to an exploit of this kind was that of Lieutenant Decatur in the harbor of Tripoli in 1803. The American frigate *Philadelphia* had struck on a rock in that harbor and was captured by the Tripolitans and carried under the guns of the castle. The ever-adventurous Decatur volunteered to recapture the frigate or burn it, and was accorded permission. With a small vessel called a ketch he organized an expedition with thirty or forty men, sailed into the harbor under the guns of the castle, boarded the *Philadelphia*, set it on fire, and escaped without the loss of a single man.

"Cushing's great achievement in the Civil War of blowing up the Confederate ironclad ram *Albemarle* was perhaps the most wonderful feat of daring that naval annals could show up to that time. This vessel was the last naval hope of the Confederacy, and when it was first set afloat it did considerable damage to several of the Union gunboats blockading off the coast of Hatteras.

"Cushing volunteered to blow it up as it lay moored at Plymouth wharf in one of the inlets on the coast of North Carolina.

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"It was one of the most gallant and daring exploits of the Civil War, and was carried to complete success. With a steam-launch carrying a torpedo Cushing, after a night of adventure, found the *Albemarle*, drove his vessel against her, fired the torpedo, and destroyed her.

"These and others that could be described were wonderful feats of courage and daring, but the case of the *Merrimac* has this further element, that the volunteers walked into a death-trap without anything in the way of expected battle to buoy them up.

"And yet when Admiral Sampson called for volunteers for this expedition four thousand men offered themselves, and only seven could be accepted! With such a navy can we not win against a world in arms?"—*The Times-Herald, Chicago.*

Metal of the American Navy.—"Hobson's feat is none the less glorious because the American navy has always produced men of the same metal when occasion demanded it. . . . In the Civil War there were many deeds of heroism by men whose names even have not been preserved. During the blockade of Charleston in 1863 a boat, in the shape of a cigar, designed for submarine service against war-ships at anchor, was brought to the wharf near Fort Sumter. The construction was in some respects faulty, so that when it went under the water there was no certainty that it could be again brought to the surface. There was no supply of compressed air to keep the crew alive for a number of hours, and no electric lights nor power. Nevertheless, a crew volunteered to man this dangerous craft. While the men were on board the vessel was sunk by the waves from a passing steamer, and all of them perished miserably. Another crew volunteered and the boat, while making a trial trip, went down and did not arise again to the surface until it was lifted from the bottom. Again the crew had perished. A third crew volunteered, knowing that they volunteered to die. A spar, with a torpedo at the end of it, was fitted to the fatal boat and she started upon her mission. In a little while there was an explosion and the federal war-ship *Housatonic*, which was lying off Charleston, disappeared beneath the waves. When divers went down after the war to raise the wreck of the *Housatonic*, the cigar-boat was beside her and within were the bones of the heroes who gave their lives for their cause.

"All honor to men who are faithful unto death!"—*The Sun, Baltimore.*

The Amenities of War.—"There was nothing any more theatrical in Admiral Cervera's treatment of Hobson's exploit than there was in the exploit itself. Hobson had a fixed idea, such as a naval constructor might be expected to entertain, that it was mechanically possible to sink a hulk across the channel so as to 'cork the bottle' and keep the Spanish squadron in by an obstruction they had no appliances for removing. Incidentally, as it were, he proposed to sacrifice his own life, to which, in the fervor of his demonstration, he probably did not give much thought. When Admiral Cervera understood his object he was seized with the admiration that one brave man excites in another, and he took precisely the best and most tactful method of showing his appreciation. It was a demonstration of the same kind that was made when Sir Richard Grenville, after running the gauntlet of the whole Spanish fleet, was carried on the Spanish flag-ship to die.

'And they praised him to his face,
With their courtly foreign grace.'

"It can not be said that the demonstration was superfluous. It is good for us to be reminded that among the countrymen of Weyler and of the men who destroyed the *Maine* there are brave and chivalrous gentlemen. This war has produced nothing to the personal discredit of the high officers of the Spanish navy. They may not be very skilful in handling war-ships, but they seem to know how to behave in emergencies. Nothing could have been more dignified than the behavior, so far as it is known, of poor Admiral Montojo, who was set to defend a lot of naval junk against Dewey's modern men-of-war. And certainly nothing could have been finer than Admiral Cervera's recognition of the gallantry of the men who had successfully performed a dangerous and difficult 'feat of arms' against him. His behavior has touched the hearts of the American people, and it is not fantastic to say that his country may take solid advantages from it when the time comes for making terms of peace."—*The Times, New York.*

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

HOBSON is everybody's choice.—*The Journal, Milwaukee.*

NOTHING short of an archeological society will be able to locate Mason and Dixon's line after this.—*The News-Tribune, Detroit.*

CHINA is wrestling with one of the most conspicuous peace-at-any-price policies that the world has developed.—*The Star, Washington.*

NOT THE ONLY PEBBLE.

THE GRADUATE: "Well, I seem to be slightly overshadowed this year."
—*The Journal, Minneapolis.*

"WHAT!" said the Spanish bondholder as he picked up the Madrid *Imparcial*, "another victory! One more and I am ruined."—*The Inter Ocean, Chicago.*

IT is a curious thing that the people who go into politics and suddenly get rich generally possess an inordinate hatred for those who get rich and suddenly go into politics.—*The Press, New York.*

HER VIEW OF IT.

Sagasta: "You must remember, your majesty, that our men went down fighting."

The Queen Regent: "Yes, and the way you folks are bragging about it will leave the world to conclude that you expected they'd go down begging the other fellows not to shoot."—*The Leader, Cleveland.*

AN EFFORT AT ANALOGY.

"We can't annex Hawaii," said the man who learns things by heart to repeat as arguments. "It's true Americans have many interests there, but think of the immense population that does not speak our language nor fully comprehend our institutions."

"Oh," rejoined the cynical friend, "that doesn't make any difference. Look at the ease with which the country has managed to get along with Manhattan Island."—*The Star, Washington.*

CERVERA: "Carramba! I can't even dig out—if I do I'll meet Dewey!"
—*The Evening Journal, New York.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

WAR AND THE PRODUCTION OF LITERATURE.

THE effect of our war with Spain on the book trade in this country and England is receiving some discussion from reviewers and critics. It is quite generally admitted that fewer books are being issued than during times of peace, and that in the lists of what is brought out the publishers are giving very unusual prominence to books on military and naval history and on geographical subjects. Old works by forgotten authors on military subjects are being reprinted, and histories of Spain, Cuba, and the Philippine Islands are appearing almost weekly. But, on the whole, publishers seem to be holding back books.

John Gilmer Speed (writing in the New York *Herald*) says that "inevitably the effect of war on book publishers and booksellers is instant and immense":

"People undoubtedly read as much in war times as in the calmer days of peace. A good many read more, for every one wants to know all the newest details of the great happenings of the day. But we read newspapers and not books. . . . . .

"It is therefore a very trying time for both publishers and authors. It is true that many of the authors have turned war correspondents and are trying to make literature for the newspapers, but very many of them have no capacity for that kind of work. With these this is a pretty hard time. It is true also that many of the publishers of books own periodicals. These are likely to be filled with war matter and war pictures, and the business in them is apt to be much brisker than usual. But the book trade proper is as dull as dull can be."

Of the effect on the London market, the New York *Times* says editorially:

"London publishers are hastening to satisfy the call for books on the American army and navy, on Cuba, and, incidentally, on Spain; and old works by many forgotten authors describing the fight with the great Armada are going to press as fast as they can be uncovered from the dust and cobwebs of ages. The cry over yonder for war books seems to be as insatiable as it is here, and several volumes, which had been announced for the fall trade, but which only remotely refer to the present conflict, are being rushed through the press. Among these is Oman's 'History of the Art of War,' to be brought out as soon as possible by Messrs. Methuen. The book goes not later than the Middle Ages, but 'war' is the saving word in its title. Rear-Admiral Montagu's 'Middy's Recollections' is also announced for an early date, as is Sir George Sydenham Clarke's 'A Short History of Russian Naval Power.' Gibson Bowles, M.P., is preparing as rapidly as possible a book which is to deal with the Declaration of Paris in the light of the present war. Fully twenty years ago Mr. Bowles wrote a book on maritime warfare, and now the author is hard at work fixing up a new edition, which will include, we hope, the battle of Manila. In the mean time the press of London continues to pour praise upon J. A. Altsheler's romance, 'A Soldier of Manhattan,' while a touch of irony is given to the scene by the announcement of a Parisian publisher that he will shortly bring out Maurice de Beaumarchais's 'La Doctrine de Monroe: Evolution de la Politique des Etats-Unis au XIXe. Siècle,' the additions to which are being written in the light of the possible Anglo-American alliance."

Commenting upon the reported reluctance of American publishers to send out books during war time, Sir Walter Besant, writing in *The Author*, of London, says he does not believe that war stops people from reading books. He points out that the years from 1793 to 1815 were years of terrible strife, as far as England was concerned, "but it was just then that Wordsworth, Coleridge, Lamb, Scott, Byron, Rogers, Landor, Shelley, and Godwin were doing their best work." Says Sir Walter:

"The most dead, dull, and dejected time in the whole history of English literature was that of the early thirties—a period of profound peace. At one time, I believe in the autumn of 1832, there were hardly any books published at all. It was at that time, I believe, that the world finally rebelled against the rubbish that was forced upon the book clubs as fiction and poetry. The society novel fell never to be revived, the tales in verse fell, and the book clubs fell, to be revived, perhaps. They broke up, and their place has never since been filled up. I remark, again, that this was, after many years, a time of profound peace."

The Saturday Review thinks that the publishing trade in England as well as in America "has certainly never been in a more precarious situation." We are treated to this rather remarkable paragraph:

"There is no doubt that actual hostilities, with the chance of the city [New York] being shelled, will result in the extinction of several historic firms. The depression will not be restricted to that side of the Atlantic. English authors have long been accustomed to look to the American market for substantial additions to their income, nor is it infrequent that London firms recoup themselves for an unsuccessful venture at home by the popular reception of a book in the republic."

WALT WHITMAN AS A "MARTYR TO THE CAUSE OF HUMANITY."

ACCESSIONS to the Whitman literature have been made rapidly in the last year or two, and the end, apparently, is not yet. One of the latest is a volume containing the letters written by Whitman while in hospital service in Washington during the Civil War. The letters, most of them, were written to his mother, and are very unpretentious and colloquial in tone. The volume (which is entitled "The Wound-Dresser," and is edited by R. M. Bucke) is reviewed by *The Saturday Review* (London, May 21), which recounts the facts of Whitman's hospital service and concludes that "if ever there was, then, a martyr to the cause of humanity, it was this humble and devoted man." The reasons for this conclusion are thus set forth:

" . . . when the Civil War broke out, Walt Whitman was a man of forty-three, in the very prime of health and physical strength, who had never consciously suffered from a day's illness in his life. We say 'consciously,' since there can, in our mind, be no question that Walt Whitman was neurasthenic from the first, and at no period in precisely normal health. But he had, at least, the appearance of unusual ruddy robustness. Toward the close of 1862 the military hospitals in and around Washington became glutted with sick and wounded men: a floating population amounting at times to 50,000 souls. The Government was not prepared for a calamity on so vast a scale, and could scarcely cope with it. Everything was done that could be contrived to allay the horrible distress; but in spite of it the involuntary neglect and blundering were fearful. Walt Whitman was a very poor man, not in any way prominent. He had published 'Leaves of Grass,' but this book had not merely brought him no fame, but no infamy either, since it was not until the preposterous Mr. Secretary Harlan discharged the poet, in 1865, from his little post in the Interior Department, that people woke up to the nakedness of Whitman's rhapsodies.

"Personal vanity or public encouragement, therefore, had absolutely nothing to do with the step which Whitman took on December 19, 1862, when, unable to endure any longer the misery of reading in the newspapers about the sufferings of the wounded, he threw up his employment and came to Washington as a volunteer lay missionary to the sick and dying. He was connected with no society, but a few friends at home contributed small sums which he expended on little comforts for the men, supporting himself meanwhile, through the exercise of a Spartan economy, by odd jobs of copying and reporting. Here he stayed for nearly two years, until his magnificent bodily health was completely broken down by hospital malaria and the poison absorbed from gangrenous wounds. During all this time his daily ministrations to the wounded never received any public or official recognition whatever, altho they were gladly accepted. He never regained the vitality which he expended for others in the wards of the ter-

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rible Washington hospitals, but attack on attack left him more and more reduced in health until they culminated in 1872 in the stroke of paralysis which never left him and from the indirect effects of which he died in 1892."

As to the nature of his assumed duties in the hospitals, we are given the following description:

"He slipped into the wards laden with oranges, with licorice, with tobacco, with raspberry vinegar. To this man he brought a book, to another some candy, to another a pipe. Observing that these country lads were very slow in formulating their wishes, and were frightened out of their wits by the doctors and sergeants, he would hang about and chat with them, until he discovered what little things would give relief; one had a longing for pickles, one wanted a toothpick, another yearned to write home to his people; and each requirement was met, without discussion, by Whitman.

"The great source of his success, however, seems to have been his caressing, affectionate manner. . . . Whitman believed that many of them died of their hunger for personal love—of a broken heart, in fact; and he endeavored to supply the deficiency. He says to his sister: 'Lots of them have grown to expect, as I leave at night, that we should kiss each other, sometimes quite a number; I have to go round, poor boys. There is little petting in a soldier's life in the field; but, Abby, I know what is in their hearts, always waiting, tho they may be unconscious of it themselves.'"

The Saturday Review concludes its critique as follows:

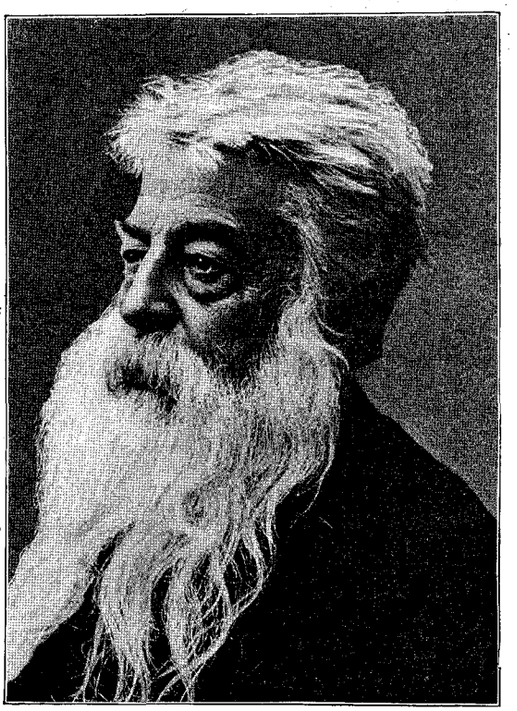
"We can give no idea of the pathos and the touching ache of sympathy which run through this beautiful, melancholy little book from end to end. There is here not one touch of affectation, of false sentiment, of parade, or artificiality of any kind, but a very strong and tender nature, face to face with an awful visitation of national suffering, quietly sets to work to do as much as in it lies to alleviate its fiercest pangs. A book more directly calculated to purge the soul of nonsense we never read."

PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF MEISSONIER.

"A LITTLE man, with a thickset and powerful frame, a head of the type of Michelangelo, a flowing beard like that of a river god, and short thick hair that hides a narrow forehead, one hand supporting a pensive brow, while in the other he holds an immense palette worthy of a giant's thumb, and robed from head to foot in a blood-red Arab garment." Such is the description of the celebrated French artist given us by Charles Yriarte, or rather a description of the painter's portrait as he himself painted it. Meissonier's character, his methods of painting, the events of his life, have been made widely known, and M. Yriarte has no new revelations to make. But he seems to have been a close friend of the painter's, and gives us (in *The Nineteenth Century*, May) details that help us to realize the extreme picturesqueness of his life. Here is again the story of Meissonier's entry upon an artist's career:

"The child was then only eight years old, but he already felt that he was a painter; however, after his family were ruined, the future painter of the 'Campaign of France' became a chemist's apprentice in the Rue des Lombards, Maison Menier, where he was employed in tying up parcels and preparing plaisters. At night he would stealthily draw; his father knew this and strove, but in vain, to combat this tendency; one day, however, his son boldly proposed the following compact: his father was to give him twelve pounds, and he, Ernest, would start for Naples, and take up painting as a profession, giving his word never to ask for a farthing more from his family, so certain did he feel of success. The father hesitated but did not yield; he consented, however, to grant his son a short delay, in which he might find a master and a studio. If he succeeded he would then be at liberty to go where his instinct called him, and should have an allowance of fivepence a day, with the family dinner on Wednesdays. Meissonier, nothing daunted, at once accepted his father's proposal; the first studio he went to was that of Paul Delaroche, at that time held in high repute, but into which no one was admitted without payment. From there he went to a certain Pottier, a worthy man of little talent, who as soon as he heard the young man's plans for his future career said to him, 'I am dying of hunger, better be a cobbler than a painter!' However, when at a second interview the young man showed Pottier a composition he had designed but not dared to show the first time, the painter, struck with admiration, not only took the sketch to Léon Coignet, the master under whom Bonnat and many other artists of our day have studied, but actually paid out of his own pocket in advance the price of several months' tuition."

His first style was the treatment of little incidents, genre pictures from the life of the past. At the annual exhibitions, the public crowded about these little panels to such an extent that a special constable had to be engaged to keep the crowd moving on. Then he developed into a painter of more serious scenes, of pas-



JEAN LOUIS ERNEST MEISSONIER.

sion, of tragedy, of dramatic moments, and this naturally took him into military scenes. "Le Vedette" and "Renseignements" belong to this period. He became rich. His signature "was worth that of the Bank of France, and his credit was unlimited"; yet he was always in need of money and frequently paid a debt with a drawing. In the third period of his development we find him the painter of Napoleon at the different stages of his career. Of his plans at this time Meissonier wrote as follows:

"I have dreamed of representing the *épopée* of Napoleon, the whole cycle, down to the last disasters: 'The Dawn,' that is, the battle of Castiglione (1796–1807); 'Friedland,' the apogee of power and fortune; 'Erfurth' (1810), the moment when pride intoxicated the hero and led him to his ruin; 1814, the moment when, under a low gray sky that hangs like a shroud over the disgrace of the favorite of Fortune, the followers of Napoleon, now reduced to act on the defensive, felt overcome by doubt and were on the verge of losing their belief in his star."

Of the fifth and last picture of this series, he said: "I have it in my innermost soul. Napoleon shall stand alone on the deck of the *Bellerophon*, behind him at a distance the English sentinels, and in front of him nothing but the boundless ocean and spaceless sky." But he did not carry out his plan to the full. Of the five pictures, but three were painted—"1807," "1814," and the "Morning of Castiglione."

Yriarte tells us of the painter's last aspiration, one not gener-

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ally known, and in which he was disappointed because of failing health:

"It will be remembered that the French Government had since the year 1874 undertaken the decoration of the Pantheon, and had chosen the most celebrated artists the country possessed to contribute in this work. The decoration was necessarily carried out on large proportions of a monumental character, suitable to the architecture of the Pantheon; Meissonier, who was more of a *miniaturist*, altho his painting was always broad, was desirous of taking part in the great work; and a wall of thirty-nine feet on the left side of the high altar was assigned to him to execute a companion decoration to the 'Death of Saint Genevieve' by Jean Paul Laurens on the other side. Meissonier intended to paint thereon an allegory of the 'Siege of Paris'; he has left a sketch of this composition in black and white, which he had transformed at a later period into an 'Allegory of the Glories of France,' from Clovis at Tolbiac, from Joan of Arc to Henry the Fourth, from Louis the Fourteenth to the First Republic, and the Napoleonic *épopée*. I had been appointed by Government to follow the different stages of his work, and I was at that time the confidant of his projects. It would indeed have been a curious sight to watch this wonderful little short-sighted man, with his blinking eyes, armed with his enormous brushes, attacking this great wall and those colossal heroes. But the old white-bearded lion did not flinch from the task; he made his sketch, which I saw, and it was submitted to the official committee for final approbation."

His assistants were all selected, but disease and death put an end to the great artist's work.

Meissonier had a "regular mania" for sketching on walls, staircases, or doors, wherever he happened to be, and some of these sketches have been preserved and sold at considerable sums. At the meetings of the French Academy a sheet of white paper was always placed on the desk of each member. Meissonier was generally hypnotized by it, and would begin drawing on it, becoming oblivious to the proceedings; and, when the drawing was finished, he would give it as a souvenir to the lucky neighbor who first asked for it. In his letters he frequently drew charming little figures, and once at least painted on the margin of the paper a minute water-color that is a gem.

The marvelous pains he took to render the details of his paintings absolutely accurate have been described often. M. Yriarte adds to our information the following:

"When he took the 'great *épopée*' in hand, the master surrounded himself with all the relics of the Empire, borrowed from the families of the marshals; he insisted on everything being authentic—costumes, arms, decorations, and even the most insignificant trifles. He borrowed from the Musée des Souverains Napoleon's famous gray riding-coat, and had it copied by a tailor with Chinese fidelity, even in its creases and frayed bits; and being unable to secure the original buttons, he had a molding done of them and had them recast. Then after having exposed it to the wind and rain, he kept the heroic-looking coat in his studio for several months on a lay figure, with the notorious cocked hat set on its head. Even the artillery pieces procured from the arsenal were kept for a long time in his coach-house; and at the present moment a collection of sabretaches is being arranged at the Hôtel des Invalides, dedicated to the army, to which Meissonier contributed, by the donation of a whole series of uniforms on lay figures, specimens of the different regiments of the Imperial Guard, which had been for him instruments of his daily work."

The following incident was narrated by the artist's son, Charles, to an art critic, Sisson. It pertains to the preparations for the picture "1814," representing Napoleon's retreat from Russia. Meissonier was waiting for appropriate weather so he might copy from nature:

"At last the snow fell. When it had covered the ground, my father set to work; he had the earth trampled down by his servants, and broken up by the passing to and fro of heavy carts. When the track had become sufficiently muddy, my father started working in the open air, and notwithstanding the bitterly cold weather he placed his models on horseback; then, with prodigious activity he hurried on all the study of details, in order to get them finished before a thaw set in. Fortunately the weather continued cold; sometimes it froze and sometimes it snowed, but the same sad, gray sky, shrouded with opaque clouds, remained—the sky, in fact, necessary for the desired effect. After the escort of generals, Napoleon's figure was his next work. All the different parts of his costume were ready, and had been executed under Prince Napoleon's supervision, and rigorously copied on the authentic relics of the Emperor in the possession of the Prince. When the time came to dress the model, it was found that he could not put on the clothes. He was a stout young man and the riding-coat was too small for the big fellow, while the hat fell over his eyes. My father then tried on the costume; the coat fitted him like a glove, the hat seemed made for him. He did not hesitate for a moment, but at once took the model's place on the white horse that had been sent from the Imperial stables, caused a mirror to be placed before him, and hastily set to work to copy his own outline and the background before which it was set. The cold was intense; my father's feet froze in the iron stirrups, and we were obliged to place foot-warmers under them, and put near him a chafing-dish over which he occasionally held his hands."

He studied elaborately the movements of horses and had all sorts of sketches of them on the walls of his studio. When Leland Stanford called to have Meissonier paint his portrait the artist flatly refused—was too busy. Stanford noted with wonder the sketches of horses, and in the course of conversation it transpired that the American railway king had himself made a special photographic study of the same subject. Meissonier changed his tone and inquired of Stanford when he would like to begin sitting for his portrait.

The picture "1807" was exhibited at the Vienna Exhibition in 1873, apparently finished. M. Yriarte tells us what happened to it afterward:

"When I entered the studio, the picture, returned from Vienna, was again placed upon the easel. The whole of the right wing of the squadron which is rushing like a torrent over the corn-field in an entanglement of men and horses, a confused mass of legs, arms, and heads, had been painted out; and on a piece of canvas paper stuck over this, Meissonier was patiently repainting the subject. He told me that the squadron was too much in the front and that the imperial group did not in consequence stand out sufficiently. However, the picture as exhibited in 1873 had seemed so perfect a composition that not even the most severe judges had been able to find fault with it; yet Meissonier after a year's absence, on seeing it afresh, with rested eye and brain, at once detected where an improvement could be made, and simply explained to us that the three inches gained on the right would enhance the interest of the general effect. This reconstruction represented six months of assiduous work, which a less conscientious painter would have shirked. Such was his respect for his work, his solicitude for the future, and, it may be said, such was his anxiety about the opinion of posterity!"

GLADSTONE'S LITERARY STYLE.

THE tributes to Mr. Gladstone's excellence as an orator have been legion; not so the tributes to his style as a writer. Some who have been most enthusiastic in praising his platform powers have acknowledged that when wielding the pen he was generally diffuse and frequently prosaic. An editorial in *Literature* (London, May 28) sets forth briefly his faults as a writer:

"No one can pass from Mr. Gladstone's speeches to his writings without at once perceiving a great difference in the effect produced. It may be expressed broadly and brutally by saying that the speeches are hardly ever dull and the writings almost always. A partial explanation is obvious—Mr. Gladstone usually spoke on questions which it was the business of his life to study, while he wrote a great deal about what had occupied his scanty leisure."

This, however, the writer goes on to say, was not always true, and he quotes a passage written by Mr. Gladstone in 1894 for "The People's Bible History" as illustrating the high level his

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writing sometimes reached "through sheer force of the dignified rhetoric and wealth of phrase to which he was master." "And yet," the critic goes on to say—

"it is not too much to say that the bulk of Mr. Gladstone's writings are not read, and will not be read, for the reason that they are not readable. That power of illumination which made his budget speeches the delight of the House of Commons, and brought the farmers of Midlothian to hang upon his lips as he spoke to them of the iniquities of the succession duty and the uselessness of Cyprus, seemed often to desert him when he sat down to write even on the subjects which lay nearest his heart. There is no sense of proportion; small points are developed at enormous length till the course of the argument is lost. The very sentences are of a different stamp from those of the speeches. In the latter, syntax might occasionally be lost among the parentheses, but the meaning always emerged clear and complete, with the emphasis in the right place; the written sentences preserve grammar, but often leave no clear impression on the mind. In short, the artistic sense is defective, and that quick sympathy with the hearer's needs which supplied its place in restraining and guiding the speaker had no power over the written word. Moreover, in dealing with abstract or scientific subjects Mr. Gladstone occupied this unfortunate position—that, while his mind was of too practical and ethical bent for him to be an impartial inquirer, his sense of justice was too strong to permit his being an unscrupulous advocate. On such subjects it is not very difficult to attain a brilliant effect by taking a one-sided view and pushing it to its extreme conclusions regardless of truth; results of permanent value, on the other hand, can only be attained by the mind which admits 'dry light' unstained by prejudice. Mr. Gladstone had the Englishman's truthfulness, and would not deny facts; he had also the Englishman's placid inability to see when facts were fatal to his theory. These two capital defects—want of artistic sense and want of scientific insight—rob Mr. Gladstone's literary work of much of its independent value."

TIMIDITY OF GREAT WRITERS.

A FRENCHMAN by the name of M. L. Dugas has recently published a book ("La Timidité") on the psychology of fear. This book suggests to the London *Daily Chronicle* an interesting theory, to the effect that timidity is a badge of literary greatness. As we all know, many great authors have been shy and retiring; but *The Chronicle* is not content with pointing to such illustrations as Wordsworth, Cowper, Whittier, but applies its theory to such men as Shakespeare and Carlyle with equal insistence. Timidity accompanies meditation, solitude, self-analysis. The author communicates with the world through his books, at a distance, seldom mingling with society. These are the marks of timidity. Such is the *a priori* argument. The argument *a posteriori* proceeds as follows:

"The vast majority of people are timid in their youth. A considerable minority remain timid all their lives. Was Shakespeare timid? If his plays do not show it, perhaps his marriage with Anne Hathaway does. But, some will think, his plays show it, too. A man who had never known timidity could scarcely have written 'Hamlet.' And what about the evidence of the sonnets? Milton, a recluse by temperament before he was a recluse by necessity, must have been, like every other recluse, *un timide*. Tennyson was in the same case, still more Tennyson's friend Edward FitzGerald, and again FitzGerald's friend Thackeray—on his own confession. Richardson was 'as timid as they make 'em.' Of a few famous men, on the other hand, one can be fairly certain that timidity did not enter into their composition. Fielding is an obvious instance. Sheridan another—a timid Sheridan is a contradiction in terms. Ursa Major again: 'I have no great timidity in my own disposition,' said Johnson to Wyndham, 'and am no encourager of it in others.'"

This timidity which accompanies greatness is apt to lead, it appears, to lying:

"The first instinct of the constitutionally timid person is to conceal his embarrassment. Hence he is apt to tell lies—not deliberately, but out of sheer mental confusion. Rousseau is the capital example of this—with his '*Je n'ai jamais menti que par timidite*'—unless he was lying when he said that, as is not impossible. His explanation, however, was plausible enough. He said that he thought slowly, more slowly than ordinary conversation travels, and was thus driven into talking at random; shame and timidity made him unwilling to retract his silly remarks—obviously the next step was lying. Further, the timid man becomes a solitary, and the solitary becomes a self-analyst and an egoist. With egoism comes a want of balance and proportion. That is the psychological significance of the old curse: *Voe soli!* Sir Willoughby Patterne, with all his arrogance, was essentially *un timide*. Timidity, too, makes the bookworm. It also makes the 'bear.'"

The Carlyle type of timidity shows itself in bearishness, as an effective way of keeping society at a distance:

"In the intellectual man, you are apt to find great speculative hardihood combined with a practical timidity. Carlyle's is the typical case. The mere thought of having to order a coat or buy a pair of gloves caused him the most acute discomfort. So Descartes, Spinoza, and Kant had a sort of ferocious timidity in the practical concerns of life—were what the vulgar call 'oddities.' 'If I am fairly courageous in thought,' wrote Renan, 'I am in practise timid and cautious to excess.' Taine was of the same type."

Inasmuch as timidity leads to seclusion and thought-concentration, it may not be an unmixed evil:

"Is timidity an evil? We must not be in a hurry to answer yes, merely because it means a state of discomfort in the person affected. So far, no doubt, it is an evil; but it may be a necessary evil. Probably if the world had had no *timides*, it would have had no art. Art, as Tolstoï has recently been insisting, is essentially a mode of transmission of feeling. But it is an indirect mode, a veil, as it were, behind which a man reveals his personality. The artist communicates with his fellows not in his own person and face to face with them, but withdrawn from their gaze. This means that he is of the race of the timid. Hear Rousseau: 'I should be as fond of society as any one else were I not sure of showing myself in it not merely to my disadvantage, but as quite different from what I really am. The course I have taken in writing and hiding myself is the only one open to me.' Virgil, Horace, Benjamin Constant, Michelet, Amiel were all notably timid men. And, as we saw that timidity leads to meditation and analysis, it enters into the temperament of the philosopher and man of science. *Per contra*, a thoroughly stupid man is seldom timid."

NOTES.

"THE Rise of Silas Lapham" is being dramatized by Paul Kester and Mr. Howells, says *The Bookman*, and will be produced on the stage next season.

The Spectator, London, contains this well-deserved appreciation of William Dean Howells: "As a writer of fiction, Mr. Howells is especially worthy of admiration in that, wellnigh alone amid American contemporary novelists of the front rank, he has withstood what may be called the denationalizing drift,—the tendency to lay the scene anywhere but in America, and to people the stage with cosmopolitan characters. What is more, his literary patriotism has condemned him to no taint of provincialism; while, last and best of all, his work is always clean, fresh, and fragrant."

IT now appears that Hamlet was only a victim of neurasthenia. Dr. T. W. Hime, of Bradford, Eng., has made a thorough diagnosis of Hamlet's case, and has communicated the result to the Sheffield Literary and Philosophical society. *Hamlet*, he says, "was a marvelously true representation of a person suffering from a state of instability of the nervous system, and of all the neurotic states dependent on it. . . . Hence he became a characteristic victim of neurasthenia, ready to burst out into vehement declarations of his irresistible determinations, but incapable of converting them into action."

THE common idea that theater managers can not profitably produce Shakespeare's plays, is answered by Sir Henry Irving, in a letter to the editor of *The Weekly Post*, Birmingham, England, as follows: "The popularity of Shakespeare on the stage is pretty well attested by the fact that at the present moment he is being played at three theaters in London. There are superior persons, I believe, who say that he is popular only with playgoers who never read him. My experience is that a Shakespearian production is always a stimulus to the reading as well as the playgoing public. There is no symptom that the double interest in Shakespeare is likely to decline in any calculable period."

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

RÔLE OF MECHANISM IN MODERN NAVAL WAR.

IT has been said that a modern naval battle is no longer a fight between sailors, but a contest of machinery operated by skilled mechanics. In a recent address before the United States Naval War College, published in *Cassier's Magazine* (June), Charles H. Cramp, the eminent shipbuilder, elaborates this idea. He says:

"Seamanship, in the old-fashioned or conventional sense, has ceased to cover adequately the requirements of knowledge, skill, and aptness which the modern conditions of naval warfare impose upon the officer in command or subordinate.

"By this I mean not to depreciate seamanship pure and simple, but to point out that modern conditions require an enlargement of the meaning of the term and a broadening of its scope of function far beyond the exactions of any former period.

"In the old days there was no essential difference in ships except in size. Experience in a sloop of war qualified an officer to assume at once and in full efficiency equivalent duties in a frigate, a seventy-four, or a three-decker. Familiarity with one ship, irrespective of rate, was familiarity with all ships. Tactical lessons learned in maneuvering one fleet were alike applicable to the maneuvering of all fleets. Even the application of steam as a propulsive auxiliary in its earlier stages did not radically alter the old conditions. At all events it did not practically erase them as the stage of progress at this moment has done.

"I can not better illustrate my point than by comparing the first and the last sea-going battle-ships built and delivered to the United States Government by Cramp. The first was the *New Ironsides*, built in 1862. The last is the *Iowa*, completed in 1897. Each represented or represents the maximum development of its day.

"The *New Ironsides* had one machine—her main engine, involving two steam-cylinders. The *Iowa* had seventy-one machines, involving one hundred and thirty-seven steam-cylinders.

"The guns of the *New Ironsides* were worked, the ammunition hoisted, the ship steered, the engine started and reversed, her boats handled—in short, all functions of fighting and maneuvering—by hand. The ship was lighted by oil-lamps, and ventilated, when at all, by natural aid currents. Tho, as I said, the most advanced type of her day, she differed from her greatest battle-ship predecessor, the old three-decker *Pennsylvania*, only in four inches of iron side armor and auxiliary steam propulsion. She carried fewer guns on fewer decks than the *Pennsylvania*, but her battery was, nevertheless, of much greater ballistic power.

"In the *Iowa* it may almost be said that nothing is done by hand except the opening and closing of throttles and pressing of electric buttons. Her guns are loaded, trained, and fired, her ammunition hoisted, her turrets turned, her torpedoes—mechanisms of themselves—are tubed and ejected, the ship steered, her boats hoisted out and in, the interior lighted and ventilated, the great search-lights operated, and even orders transmitted from bridge or conning tower to all parts by mechanical appliances. Surely no more striking view than this of the development of thirty-five years could be afforded."

This change has brought it about, says Mr. Cramp, that both the designing of a modern battle-ship and her effective use as a tool of war after she has been completed have become vastly more complex and intricate problems. And this is not a matter of detail; it means an alteration in the whole art of naval war. For instance, in the first place, the elements of difficulty and danger in maneuvering having been hugely increased; it is possible that, in modern war, fleet or squadron tactics, as now understood, will be discarded as impeding the individual action of the ships. Further, says the writer:

"In view of the complex character of the ships themselves, and the difficulty and danger of maneuvering them under the most favorable conditions, the experience of the first general action will demonstrate the necessity of having all the battle-ships in a fleet as nearly alike as possible in size, type, and capacity of performance. Such provision would not equalize the personal factor of different commanding officers, but it would at least give them all an equal chance at the start.

"For this reason I have always considered it unwise to multiply types or to seriously modify those which the best judgment we are now able to form approves. The practise of the British, French, Russians, and Germans has been contrary to this idea. Each new administration of their navies has brought in new types, until their navy lists present an almost bewildering variety. . . . . .

"In my judgment, it is hardly possible to overvalue the importance of homogeneity in fleet organization, and I am sure that the very first, and perhaps the greatest, lesson taught by an encounter between fleets of modern battle-ships will be the advantage of similarity of type and equality of performance in the units of action."

The United States, Mr. Cramp tells us, has not accumulated an assortment of types, and hence is free to pursue the policy of uniformity. Passing from the squadron to the single ship, Mr. Cramp remarks that the new order of things places the captain of one of our great armorclads at the parting of two roads. Shall he perfect himself in all the details of his machine, or shall he merely "command" her, leaving personal knowledge to subordinates? In other words, shall he be the "boss workman" or only the employer? The latter course is the easy one. The former, says Mr. Cramp—

"is hard to travel, but when it leads into an emergency the captain is found prepared, self-reliant, and able to command his subordinates on the spot, instead of waiting to receive their reports. This brings success of the kind that can not be hid, and with it that valuable and permanent distinction which the public is always ready and anxious to confer upon those who serve it well."

As to the admiral, his ability should be even more comprehensive. Says the writer:

"Let us assume that the composition of the fleet has been made as nearly homogeneous as possible by carrying out the principles previously stated as for ships and their captains, and that the admiral finds himself in command of an ideal fleet as to material and *personnel*. Actual differences in efficiency as between several units of action will still remain, and it will become the first duty of the admiral to ascertain and locate these diversities with unerring judgment and unsparing perception. He should know to a nicety the personal equation of every captain and the effective individuality of every ship.

"Among the captains he should be able to differentiate the traits of relative quickness of perception, promptness of action, readiness of responsibility, and boldness of execution.

"He should know precisely the steering quality of every ship at every speed, which would, of course, include her circle and her time of altering course in any degree, from a fraction of a point to wearing clear around.

"In a word, the admiral should have clearly and definitely in his mind a true conception of the coefficient of performance of each unit of his command in all situations, and he should be able at any time and in any emergency to relate these coefficients to each other and to the whole with infallible precision. If it happens that the least competent captain has the least effective ship, and the ablest captain the best ship, the range of coefficients will be wide; if the conditions are reversed, giving to the poorest ship the best captain, and to the best ship the poorest captain, the range of coefficients may be narrowed, but there will always be some diversity, and the tact and skill of the admiral must be measured by his success in reducing the tactical effect of such diversity to a minimum.

"It may be suggested that the schedule of requirements just formulated presupposes almost superhuman capacity in the admiral, both as to range of knowledge and accuracy of judgment. If so, I maintain that the command of a fleet of modern battle-ships, on whose success in a campaign the issue of a cause or the fate of a nation may depend, is by far the greatest trust that can ever in our time, or in the future, be confided by a people to one man."

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ANOTHER NEW ELEMENT IN THE AIR.

REPORTS of the discovery of new chemical elements do not create a great stir nowadays, for few of them prove to be more than mistakes or deliberate "fakes." The latest, however, which comes in a despatch from England to the daily papers of June 7, deserves more attention, on account of the high standing of the reported discoverer and his previous discoveries of argon and helium. The New York *Sun* (June 8) contains the following:

"American chemists read with great interest *The Sun's* cable despatches from London and Paris announcing the discovery of a new element in the atmosphere, which the discoverer, Prof. William Ramsay, president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, has named crypton, from the Greek for 'hidden.' Details as to the properties of the new gas and the manner in which it was discovered are anxiously awaited, for Ramsay stands so high among foreign chemists that no doubt is expressed here that he has found what the scientific world has for a long time known he was after—the third element of the 'triad,' of which argon and helium are the other two."

After describing the discoveries of argon and helium, the correspondent goes on to say:

"Ramsay and his assistant, Morris Travers, have been searching for two years for a gas allied to argon and helium. Ramsay's recent address before the chemical section of the British Association was entirely devoted to an exposition of his reasons for supposing the existence of this undiscovered gas and the story of his search for it. The search for this element was begun by examining the gases from various minerals and mineral springs and by fractionating helium by diffusion through porous plates. The latter method only resulted in obtaining two fractions, one of which was pure helium and the other was helium with a small proportion of argon.

"That another element would be found in the atmosphere was not thought probable, and the search was conducted, as had been the search for helium, by the examination of mineral gases. But *The Sun's* cable despatches announce that crypton was discovered in the air. About a quart of liquefied air was evaporated and collected in a tube. The residue furnished a gas. The oxygen was abstracted by the aid of metallic copper, the nitrogen by 'sparking,' and then a mixture of magnesium and pure lime was used to deprive the gas of the little oxygen remaining. Some four cubic inches of gas remained. It presented a weakly defined spectrum of argon and an additional spectrum characterized by two exceedingly brilliant lines, one almost identical with the yellow helium line, and the other a green line comparing in intensity with the green line of the helium spectrum.

"Crypton may be the common element in the heretofore supposed elements argon and helium. The chemists are divided in opinion. The similarity of the spectra of crypton and helium indicates that they may have a common element yet undiscovered. C. Runge and F. Pachen not long ago announced that their experiments led them to believe that the gas in clèvite consisted of two elements—helium and something else. Professor Lockyer, in describing some experiments with helium, remarked recently: 'We appear to be in the presence of the *vera causa*, not of two or three, but of many of the lines which, so far, have been classed as "unknown" by students, both of solar and stellar chemistry, and if this be confirmed, we are evidently in the presence of a new order of gases of the highest importance in celestial chemistry, tho perhaps they may be of no practical value to chemists, because their compounds and associated elements are for the most part hidden in the earth's surface.'

"Crypton does not form a very large part of the air man has been breathing some few thousand years. About one cubic inch in 20,000 is the proportion. If helium there is in the air, the proportion is about the same. Argon is present in a slightly larger proportion."

Cheese-making with Bacteria.—The "ripening" of cheese, so as to produce the characteristic texture and flavor of any desired variety, has been brought to a high degree of perfection by Dr. Olav Johan Olsen, of Norway. An account of the bacteriological methods by which he has reached his results is contributed by his assistant, Thora Scheel, to *Naturen* (March) and abstracted in *Natural Science* (June). "Dr. Olsen, it seems, has investigated various cheeses, and has caught and cultivated their microbes; then he has reversed the process, and used his cultures to produce the various cheeses from which he started. The kinds of microbes are not many, but by their combinations in different proportions, different results are obtained. The milk is sterilized and heated to 70°–75° C., and the storeroom is kept guarded against foreign microbes. Those that are desired are added in the requisite proportions, and their vigorous growth is of itself enough to overcome the influence of accidental strays. The production of the kinds of cheese is no longer an affair of the laboratory; but Dr. Olsen will take your order for Gorgonzola, Stilton, or Camembert, and will furnish the precise description required at a cost satisfactory to your pocket and to his own."

UTILIZATION OF GLACIERS.

THE modern utilitarian spirit has now attacked the Alpine glaciers, and is treating them, so we are told, as mere deposits of ice, to be quarried and sold at so much a pound. Says *The Engineering Magazine* (New York, June):

"Until recently the principal commercial value of the Alpine glaciers has been considered to lie in the attraction which they have offered to tourists, and the consequent revenue which has accrued to the skilful exploiters of natural scenery.

"During the past year, however, a more practical idea has been developed, and the Glacier du Casset, near Briançon, is now regularly operated as an ice quarry, the blocks being cut and conveyed over an overhead cableway to a convenient place for shipment by rail to Paris, there to be consumed in the cafés and hotels of the metropolis."

The following account is condensed from an article in *Le Génie Civil* by the magazine from which we have just quoted. It says:

"A moderate clearing of the face of the glacier revealed a vertical front of ice 25 to 30 feet in height and about 100 feet in clear width, and from this quarry the ice is removed in blocks in the following manner: Vertical grooves 6 feet deep and about 8 feet apart are cut in the wall of ice, extending from the base to the top, and a similar channel is cut from the top downward behind the ice, the rear cut extending only about one third of the way down. A small excavation is then made under the foot of one of the rectangular pillars, and a light blast of powder is sufficient to bring down the mass, usually in three or four large pieces.

"These large blocks are further broken into pieces from 200 to 300 pounds in weight, and passed down slides to the loading platform of the cableway. The larger pieces are caught in grappling-tongs, and the smaller ones packed in boxes, these being suspended from the trolleys. The ice is thus sent down the mountain side a distance of nearly a mile and a half, the difference in elevation between the two ends of the cableway being about 1,300 feet.

"As the loads are always on the descending side of the endless cable, no other source of motive power is necessary than the weight of the ice itself, and a controlling brake device is used to prevent an undue acceleration from taking place. At the lower platform the ice is unloaded from the trolleys into carts, and hauled to the railway station at Briançon, about ten miles distant, where it is shipped to Paris.

"The cost of installation of the cableway, including the construction of the wooden supports and all details ready for operation, is given as 25,000 francs [$5,000], and the daily cost of operation of the entire plant, employing about thirty men, is 150 francs [$30]. As the output is about 100 tons of ice per day, the cost is but 1.50 francs [30 cents] per ton, at the lower platform of the cableway. The cost of hauling to Briançon is about 6 francs per ton, and, including the wastage by melting in the summertime, the cost of glacier ice at the Briançon station is about 9 francs [$1.80] per ton.

"As this interesting plant has been in successful operation since July of last year, there seems to be no doubt of its mechanical success, while its value as a commercial investment will probably depend somewhat upon the season, and upon the scarcity of ice from other and former sources."

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Cannibalism within the Human Body.—Under this somewhat startling title, *Cosmos* (Paris, May 28) notes the following facts: "It is a revolting and nevertheless incontestable fact that certain parts of the body live at the expense of others, which they—so to speak—devour. These cannibalistic organs are the brain, the heart, and the lungs, which, to fulfil their functions, need to be fed constantly, otherwise they would die. When this nourishment is wanting, they get it from other less vital parts of the body. The heart, for example, has an enormous amount of work to do, and consequently must receive a large amount of nourishment. In the ordinary course of things, the blood brings to it from the stomach the necessary quantity; but after one has fasted for a certain length of time, the stomach can no longer do its duty of nourishing the heart, and the blood is obliged to find elsewhere the food necessary for the life of this essential organ. It goes, therefore, to the fatty portions and to the muscles of the trunk and limbs. First it applies to the liver, where it finds a provision of sugar that is sufficient for several hours; then it resorts to the deposits of fat stored up in various parts of the body—that is why one's clothes become too large when he is famished. When all the fat has been devoured, the blood takes what it wants from the muscles, so that finally little but skin and bone is left, while the brain, the heart, and the lungs preserve their former size. And we surely can not complain of this; it is the salvation of the miners who are buried in a caved-in mine, of the sailors who have been cast by shipwreck on a desert isle, of the polar explorers whose provisions have given out; for even if their secondary organs suffer, their brains and hearts preserve their energy, which is the essential thing."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

A Submerged Railway.—The latest scheme proposed for bridging the English Channel contemplates the erection of a bridge below the surface and operating upon this a platform emerging above water. The plan is described as follows, says *The Railway Age* (May 27):

"The platform on which it is proposed that the trains should stand while being conveyed across the Channel would be 150 meters [492 feet] long and about 15 meters [49 feet] broad. It would be supported by five iron pillars on each side. These pillars, braced together in pairs by iron girders, and supported by iron stays, would rest on a submerged platform provided with wheels rolling on rails fixed on the bridge. This submerged platform would be 30 meters [98 feet] wide, so that the pillars supporting the platform above the water would incline inward, since the upward platform would be only about 15 meters wide. The motive power, which it is proposed should be electricity, would be generated by steam-engines and dynamos installed on the upper platform, and transmitted directly and separately to each of the fifteen pairs of wheels with which the submerged platform is to be provided. The new project has just formed the subject of careful study by the Compagnie de Fives-Lille, whose high reputation is a guaranty for success. That study has shown the practicability, the facility of execution, and the relative economy of that method of transit by rail between France and England. This scheme has the advantage over its predecessors of being very simple, and of possessing absolute safety both during its execution and in its working. That solution has also the advantage of escaping the principal international objections raised against the project of the bridge above the water. No obstacle to navigation would be created by it, and the insular situation of England would remain intact."

The Plague and the Ants.—It is asserted by *La Médecine Moderne* (Paris) that the plague at Bombay has now attacked the ants, which may consequently be hereafter agents of infection. It says that a correspondent of *The Times* had an ant's nest in the room where he was at work. The ants were the little red ones that attack cakes, puddings, and sweetmeats in our pantries. The existence of the plague in the neighborhood of the house was revealed by the abnormal mortality among the rats of the quarter, which was so great that each day their bodies had to be collected and burned. One day a strange bustle was observed among the ants; by observing for several days those that were passing to and from the nest it was seen that they were breaking camp and moving to a spot about three yards distant. More attentive observation showed that some hundreds of the insects were dead or dying; the dead were carried by their companions to a spot about two feet from the new dwelling and piled up; besides, a great number of grains of rice were thrown out, as if they had been recognized as bad and improper for the food of the community. Two days later, the new nest had been finished, but the mortality continued among the ants, and a new removal was made to a spot several feet farther away, the dead bodies and the rice being left behind. But these measures were insufficient, since the disease continued to devastate the nest, and it was noticed that the ants that were charged with removing the rice were the first to die. This interesting series of observations was unhappily interrupted by a troop of monkeys, who upset everything in the house and destroyed all traces of the dwellings and burial-places of the ants. Nevertheless, a Bombay bacteriologist has succeeded in procuring several specimens of living and dead ants and proposes to seek for the plague bacillus in their bodies."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

TO REMOVE MOLD IN CELLARS.—"Unslaked lime," says *The Scientific American*, "is best suited for this purpose. It is blown, in the shape of a fine powder, on the walls of the cellar and into the joints and crevices by means of the bellows, or else thrown on with the hand. The walls must be damp; dry walls have to be well moistened previously. The lime slakes with the adhering water and kills all organisms. On the day following the walls are washed off, and, as experience has proved, the cellar will remain free from mold for at least two years."

"QUITE a comic duel," says *The Financial News*, "is going on at short range between Mr. Hiram S. Maxim and Mr. Hudson Maxim. The latter has invented a system of throwing high explosives from ordnance at such a range that, if successful, no fleet could live against them. He has offered his invention to the American Government. Some of the English newspapers have alluded to the inventor as 'Mr. Maxim' only, which has brought a disclaimer from Mr. Hiram S. Maxim, and a statement of opinion that the reports are 'foolish, absurd, and ridiculous.' Touched on the raw, Mr. Hudson Maxim wants to know what about that aerial machine which 'Hiram' invented, and which flew about as far as a locomotive would under the same circumstances."

WRITING of the thirteen-inch gun used in our navy, a writer in *The Engineering Magazine* says: "It is difficult to appreciate the power, and at the same time the delicacy, of these great fighting-machines. At the muzzle the immense projectile has been forced through twenty-seven inches of Harveyized steel. At two thousands yards the penetration is twenty-two and one-half inches. The extreme range is thirteen miles. The projectile leaves the gun with a velocity of 2,100 feet per second, or 1,400 miles per hour. A shot can be fired every one and one-half minutes for a period of several hours. The force imparted to the projectile, if properly applied, would lift a battle-ship bodily three feet, and yet this great machine, weighing 145,000 pounds, is as accurate as a high-grade watch."

THE CURATIVE POWER OF FEVER.—"A. Lowey and P. F. Richter energetically defend a view now held by a large number of clinicians, that fever in acute infectious diseases is one of the weapons of defense possessed by the animal body," says *The Canada Lancet*. "In proof of this they detail a series of experiments on rabbits, consisting in the production of high temperature . . . and subsequent inoculation of the animals with the minimal lethal dose or its multiple of pneumococcus, hog cholera, and diphtheria. The results showed that the animals in which fever had been artificially produced lived longer than the controls; some, indeed, survived the infection. Altho indicating the curative power of fever, the authors do not oppose the proper use of the antipyretic measures, when these have favorable incidental effects (quieting the nervous system, etc.). But, they add, it may be profitable to search for pyretic agents—*i.e.*, such as evoke an artificial rise of temperature."

SPEAKING of a recent accident in which a horse was caused to run away by scenting a performing bear that was being led past him, *The Lancet*, May 28, says: "No horse, unless carefully trained, can bear the smell of two animals—namely, the bear and the camel. The smell of the latter is offensive enough to human nostrils, but this would not explain the terror which a horse exhibits at first sight or smell of a camel. But the reason for the horse's dread at the smell of a bear must, we suppose, be found in a reminiscence continued through the race from the time when the cave bear fed upon the primitive horse. In the case of the camel it can not be simply that the smell is disagreeable to the horse, for horses have no objection to goats, the smell of which, tho not so offensive as that of a camel, is very similar in character. And on the other hand it can not be, as in the case of the bear, the fear that the camel will do some harm. Animal odors, both human and otherwise, form a curious chapter in medical lore." A recent prize essay by Dr. Monin contains, says the same paper, "a vast amount of information on the subject. It is well known that individuals of the same race possess various smells. For instance, the smell of red-haired people is often very offensive, a fact noted long ago by Ambrose Paré. The strong smell of the negro, too, has often been commented upon by travelers. Alexander the Great was said by Plutarch to emit a smell of violets."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

A UNITARIAN VIEW OF THE RELIGIOUS SITUATION.

THE signs and tendencies of the times in the sphere of religious life is the subject of an address (published by *The Christian Register*, Boston) delivered by the Rev. Minot J. Savage, pastor of the Church of the Messiah, New York city. Mr. Savage begins by speaking of the present age as a great transitional epoch in every department of human thought and endeavor and especially so in the department of theology. Some of the old theological systems are crumbling away and others are being modified and readjusted to conform to new demands and conditions. Even the orthodox view of such matters as the infallibility of the Bible, the question of future punishment, and the character and mission of Christ has been greatly changed in recent days. One may be sound in the Christian faith "on much easier terms" than was possible a century ago. To illustrate some of these points, Mr. Savage said:

"I was talking with a prominent Presbyterian clergyman within the past year—one whose name would be familiar to you all if I should mention it—and he gave me his view of the infallibility of the Bible something after this fashion. He said: 'If I believed that God ever did give an infallible revelation to the world, I should regard it as the most disheartening thing imaginable; for, if He ever did give the world such a revelation, it is certain that we have it not now.' And this he regarded as indicating that God had somehow lost His control over human affairs. I was talking not a great while ago with an Episcopal clergyman—I use these illustrations, not in any offensive way, but simply because they body forth what I wish to say in a more clear and forcible manner than I can say it in any other way—and I asked him what it was necessary to believe. I referred to the 'Pastoral Letter' of the bishops, issued with a great show of authority two or three years ago; and he said: 'We pay no attention to that; it has no binding force.' I referred to the Athanasian Creed, which is still held by the Church of England; and he said, 'Of course, we pay no regard to that.' I referred to the Thirty-nine Articles, still published in the back part of the prayer-book; and he said, 'They have no authority whatever over our consciences to-day.' I asked then in regard to the body of the prayer-book. I said: 'For example, here is the form for the baptism of infants, which still teaches, by plain implication, the damnation of such infants as are not baptized. Do you regard that as binding?' He said, 'Not at all.' I asked him then what he did regard as binding. He said, 'Simply the Apostles' and the Nicene Creeds'; and these he felt at liberty to interpret just as he pleased. I said, 'Then what is the matter with my being an Episcopal clergyman?' He said he did not see any reason why I should not. This is allowable orthodoxy within the limits of one of the great historic churches. . . . There is a prominent Episcopal clergyman in one of our great cities whose belief, so far as I can find out, in many a long conversation, is almost precisely identical with my own. He tells me that he regards the Nicene creed—'God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God,' etc.—simply as a magnificent statement of theism. Intead of making these words apply only to one man, he makes them apply to humanity, to the race. One of the prominent educators of this country has made public the fact that he regards religious belief, in the creed sense, as of no importance whatever. He has joined a church the creed of which he does not believe, and has said so, and, when asked to explain his position, has done it after this fashion: 'If I should refuse to unite with a church because I did not accept its creed, I should be confessing that the creed was of some importance, which I deny.'

"Where, then, are the old points of the theological system of the past? Almost every one of them has disappeared. Dr. Gordon of this city tells us that belief in eternal punishment is practical atheism. And so you may take them, one point after another, and nearly every one has faded out of the vital belief of the modern world. This system is crumbling. It belongs to the past. The early church made one grave and serious mistake. It accepted certain supposed historical narratives, legends, traditions, of the Hebrew people, along with certain letters and wrings of her own disciples of the first century, as being an infallible divine revelation. They identified, in a certain sense, these theological beliefs with religion itself. And so, as the world has gone on and outgrown these beliefs, they stand affrighted and trembling, for fear that religion itself is in danger. This whole conception of the universe, of God, of man, of duty, of destiny, is passing away. It is refreshing, I think, to escape from the midst of these crumbling ruins, and climb up to the heights that are luminous with the clear truths that we, as Unitarians, are accustomed to accept and are bound to proclaim to the world. The magnificence of our position, it seems to me, appears in this: there is hardly one of the great truths that we claim to believe and stand for that is not capable of demonstration. They have come to us as a new and grander revelation of God, conceded to this nineteenth century."

THE PRESBYTERIAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND PROFESSOR McGIFFERT.

A NEW turn has been given to the discussion of Professor McGiffert and his book on the "History of Christianity in the Apostolic Age" by the action of the recent General Assembly of the Northern Presbyterian Church in regard to the matter. The subject came before the Assembly in the shape of an overture from the presbytery of Pittsburg in which the work in question was described as "a flagrant and ominous scandal, . . . the most daring and thoroughgoing attack on the New Testament that has ever been made by an accredited teacher of the Presbyterian Church in America; great distinguishing features of the Presbyterian Church, and even fundamental doctrines of evangelical Christendom, are denied in the said book." The overture was referred to a committee for consideration, and was finally referred back to the Assembly in three separate reports, one signed by a majority of the committee and two by minorities. The majority report condemned Dr. McGiffert's book with "emphatic disapproval," and concluded thus: "The Assembly, therefore, in the spirit of kindness no less than in devotion to the truth, counsels Dr. McGiffert to reconsider the questionable views contained in his book, and, if he can not conform his views to the standards of our church, then counsels him peaceably to withdraw from the Presbyterian ministry." The first minority report, without pronouncing judgment on the teachings of the book or upon the views of its author, directs the presbytery of New York, of which Dr. McGiffert is a member, to confer with Dr. McGiffert for the relief of the church either by a satisfactory explanation or otherwise, and to take such further action as the peace and purity of the church may require." The second minority report, signed only by Prof. Francis Brown, Dr. McGiffert's colleague in Union Seminary, recommended that no action be taken. In arguing for the acceptance of his report Professor Brown pleaded for quietness amid outcries, for trust in the Holy Spirit as the indwelling guide into truth, for breadth of view with faith in God, for the avoidance of discouragement to scholarship at the crucible of criticism and of the discouragement to young men now being turned aside from entering the Presbyterian ministry by fear of iron bonds, and against injustice to an absent man, whose book could not be judged by extracts. After a general discussion of the three reports, that of the majority was adopted by a large vote.

The action of the Assembly seems to have met with the general approval of the religious papers representative of the Presbyterian Church and by the evangelical press generally. *The Herald and Presbyter* (Presbyterian, Cincinnati), a strongly conservative paper, is inclined to think that the more moderate plan of sending the case to Dr. McGiffert's presbytery was better, but in view of the distractions in that presbytery, and of the necessity for immediate action, the adoption of the amended ma-

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jority report was an easier and perhaps more effective way of dealing with the difficulty. *The Central Presbyterian* (Richmond, Va.) is not so well pleased. It says:

"The majority report as adopted seems open to some serious objections. It severely condemns Dr. McGiffert for views given in his book, without trial or any judicial process. It ignores the responsibility of the presbytery of which Dr. McGiffert is a member; and it leaves Dr. McGiffert to try his own case, and sit in judgment upon himself. The action was in accordance with the wishes of those who think peace must be secured at any cost, and the pleading of members of New York presbytery that they should not be required to have another trial for heresy."

In an editorial article reviewing the proceedings of the Assembly, the editor of the New York *Observer* (Evangelical, New York) says with reference to the case:

"The action of the Assembly, tho so nearly unanimous, may provoke some criticism. It can not be condemned, however, by those who have for the last seven years contended for the right of the Assembly to exercise absolute authority in the church. Those, on the other hand, who hold that the presbytery is the sole seat of power, may object to Assembly control. But it should be known that there was no weakening by the Assembly in the assertion of Presbyterian doctrine, for Professor McGiffert's utterances were unsparingly condemned, when the decision as to the author was left for subsequent action."

The Methodist Recorder (Methodist Protestant, Pittsburg) refers to the action of the Assembly with the remark: "Evidently experience is teaching this church caution in the treatment of assumed heretics within her fold."

On the other hand, some views of the case strongly adverse to the action of the General Assembly are expressed. Thus the able theologian who writes for the editorial page of the New York *Sun* cites the action of the Assembly as "an example of theological cowardice," says that the Assembly "dodged the question," that it was "afraid" to stigmatize Dr. McGiffert's method as it deserved, and that it "did not dare to stand up for the Bible as the Westminster Confession describes it to be." In conclusion *The Sun* says:

"It is a very remarkable confession on the part of the General Assembly. It says frankly that the highest tribunal of the Presbyterian Church dares not exercise the powers committed to it, because of its knowledge or suspicion that the Briggs and McGiffert infidelity is so dangerously prevalent in the Presbyterian Church that any attempt to interfere with its progress might lead to a disruption which would prove destructive to the organization. Moreover, does not the readiness of the Episcopal Church to allow its ministry to be used as a refuge for the leaders of this school of critics suggest an extreme of hospitality which may be construed as incompatible with a positive and definite faith on its own part?

"It is a very curious theological situation."

The New York *Tribune* is not any better pleased than *The Sun*. It thinks that the best disposition of the case would have been to send it back to the New York presbytery for trial. This course might have been embarrassing to the presbytery, it is admitted, but, it is added, "this is one of the misfortunes of the case that can not be avoided unless the church should admit that Professor McGiffert's views are within the limits of tolerated opinion, which, apparently, it is not willing to do." In conclusion *The Tribune* says:

"Moreover, the declaration of the Assembly injects another difficulty into the case. It says that it desires 'the fullest and freest investigation and inquiry' as to the foundations of the Christian faith, but by implication it declares that men in the church who engage in such inquiry and investigation must reach only conclusions that are in harmony with the doctrines of the church. Under such circumstances how can an inquiry be full and free? Obviously it can not, as this very case of Profesosr McGiffert shows. He is an honest and reverent Christian scholar, and his sole aim has been to get at the facts as to the Apostolic Church. In other words, he has done what the General Assembly says it desires to have done. And yet he has not been able to do so without exposing himself to grave charges of heresy and unbelief. It would seem much more consistent for the church to forbid any investigation of its doctrines so long as it regards those doctrines as infallibly and unalterably true."

The Outlook (undenom.) finds it "difficult to treat the action of the Assembly with respect." It says:

"Imagine the Supreme Court of the United States, without waiting for any judicial proceeding, and without having any case before it, or hearing any arguments, solemnly resolving that it stamps with its disapproval the proposition to tax incomes in so far as not in accordance with the Constitution of the United States, and recommending the Bryan Democracy to reconsider its questionable views, and, if it can not conform them to the United States Constitution, to cease to advocate them in the Senate. The act would scarcely be more absurd than that of the General Assembly. We hope that Dr. McGiffert and his friends will pay no attention to this resolution. It deserves none."

The Independent (undenom.) says that inasmuch as conservatives and liberals were almost unanimous in accepting the disposition of the case, no one else can well find fault; but it adds:

"Very likely in such a book he has made some serious errors, and he may revise his conclusions; but whether he does or does not it is not likely that he will regard his views as untenable in the Presbyterian Church. Yet it is quite possible that he may think it wiser to go into some other denomination, say Congregational or Episcopal, than to be made the center of another theological storm. He can go out and pursue his studies in peace in some denomination that understands better than a majority of the Presbyterian Church does that it has no binding creed, and that the fellowship of Christian hearts and the present guidance of the Holy Spirit are better than the decisions of fact and faith written down unalterably two hundred and fifty years ago to bind the consciences of men of greater learning and no less faith to-day. These questions of scholarship are not suited for ecclesiastical courts. They belong to the forum of honest scholars, the final judge and jury in such matters. . . . . .

"In what we have said we have assumed that Professor McGiffert accepts the substance of Christian faith. He says he does, and we believe him; and we prefer to believe him."

DOWNFALL AND DEATH OF SAVONAROLA.

ON May 23 last, the four hundredth anniversary of the death of Savonarola occurred. Many notable tributes were paid him. In Florence, where he lived and wrought and died, beautiful and impressive ceremonies were held in his honor by the Catholic clergy. His career has been the theme of long controversies in the church, but it is now generally agreed that, whatever may be thought about his doctrines, he was a bold and energetic reformer of morals, such a one as was sadly needed in his time.

In *The Missionary Review of the World* (June) an article on Savonarola appears from the pen of Rev. George H. Giddons, of London, secretary of the Evangelical Continental Society of Great Britain. This article, the second of a series, describes Savonarola's contest with Lorenzo, the ruler of Florence, and the monk's unyielding attitude at the dying bed of the ruler, refusing priestly absolution unless Lorenzo would promise that full restitution would be ordered of all that he had by unfair means acquired, and that liberty would be restored to Florence. Lorenzo refused, and the inflexible monk strode from his bedside. Then came the simultaneous entry into Florence of the Black Plague and of Charles VIII. of Valois, with his army. Savonarola alone rose equal to the occasion, staying the general exodus, diverting the gifts that were flowing into the ecclesiastical exchequer to the supplying of the needs of the sick and famishing, persuading Charles to leave the city and desist from his projects against it; and then, having become the strongest figure in Florence, instituting a purely moral and spiritual reform, which, he insisted, must take place if a purely republican form of government were

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to be made a success. He drew up a clear and concise document on state government, anticipating much of the teaching of Mazzini. A crusade of purity was instituted which reached its culmination in a great popular demonstration on the piazza before

GIROLAMO SAVONAROLA.
From a painting by Fra Bartolemmeo in Savonarola's cell in San Marco.

the Duomo, where a great bonfire was made of carnival masks, obscene books, ribald songs, and shameless pictures.

But his course aroused intense enmity among the more venal of the priests, and this enmity finally extended to Pope Alexander VI. A war between Savonarola and the Pope ensued. The latter's orders were disregarded, and duplicity was resorted to. A messenger was sent to Florence with the offer of the red hat of a cardinal. At this point we quote directly from the article by Rev. Mr. Giddons:

"The monk received the papal envoy with his wonted courtesy, and promised to give him his reply if he would come to his sermon on the morrow. With ill-disguised disgust he went, listened impatiently to the long harangue against the corruptions of the church, and in the closing sentence received his answer: 'Every other covering for my head will I refuse, even to death, except it be one which shall be dyed red with my blood.' The Pope's reply on hearing this was worthy of him: 'Then the *frate* shall have a martyr's crown.'

"Very speedily a bull arrived inhibiting the friar from further preaching. The Florentines were angered, and for a time their protests were successful, and the inhibition was withdrawn. It was soon, however, renewed, but Savonarola, growing bolder, refused to yield. The battle was fast becoming a drawn one, and the little monk resolved to face the fight. What Alexander failed to accomplish by threats, he essayed by treachery, but without avail. Tho again summoned to Rome, Savonarola continued his preaching instead, and the Lenten sermons were resumed. The scenes of the previous Ash Wednesday were repeated on a grander scale. The Pope, on hearing this, was furious, and threatened if 'that son of perdition' were not silenced at once, he would lay the city beneath the ban of excommunication. Alarmed at this, the signoria forbade Savonarola to continue, and so he ascended the pulpit for the last time on March 18, 1498, and inveighed, in more impassioned tones than ever, against the power no longer of God, but certainly of Satan. The war daily became a more decided one; events hurried along with an ever-quickening momentum. At length the frequent iteration of the well-authenticated charges against the Pope prevailed, and the papal answer was a bull of excommunication. The Franciscans were jubilant, the Dominicans defiant, and there began another of the long, fierce feuds with which the medieval annals of the church are so replete."

Then, to prove the righteousness of Savonarola's cause, a Minorite challenged the prior of San Marco to the ordeal of fire. The two were to pass through a long gallery of flame, and he who emerged unscathed was to be adjudged a representative of the truth. The challenge was accepted, and a great crowd gathered eager for the spectacle. Savonarola insisted that his representative should bear with him the pyx containing the consecrated host. The condition led to a long wrangle, the trial ended in a fiasco, and the crowd, disappointed, turned against Savonarola. Rioting was begun, and the monk sought refuge in the Duomo. We quote again:

"The war lasted all day and even till midnight, when Savonarola, in obedience to the signoria, placed himself under a safe-conduct. With a few hasty words enjoining courage and constancy he issued from the church with two faithful friends, and was brought out, not into the promised place of safety, but before the Inquisitorial commissioners, who, at the Pope's instigation, examined him by torture as a deceiver of the people. The scene within San Marco, in the Piazza, and along the route was indescribable. The darkness of night was illuminated with burning torches. Around the altar were groups of furious men, who, by the light of lanterns, and with terrific oaths, engaged in indiscriminate slaughter. Cuirasses gleamed in the corridors, while without, the sheen of spears, the rustle of swords, the roll of drums, the shout of angry voices made night hideous. Amid the screams of women, the wailing of faithful friends, the anathemas of foes, was heard the clear voice of Savonarola beseeching peace and enjoining submission, while ever and anon, between the pauses of the shoutings, to the accompaniment of ten thousand tramping footsteps was heard the singing of the friars, *Salvum fac populum tuum Domine*. That other scene in the mighty

THE EXECUTION OF SAVONAROLA.
From an old painting in the Museum of San Marco.

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tragedy of Calvary was rudely caricatured and blasphemously burlesqued. Lifting their lanterns to the pale face of the preacher, drunken men exclaimed, 'This is the true light,' and waving their flambeaux high above his head they struck him with their staves and cried, 'Prophesy now to us who it was that smote thee.'

"Again and again he fainted beneath the excruciating agony of the rack, and words are recorded as having been spoken by him, words that savor of confession and recantation, which he indignantly disowned as soon as consciousness returned. Again and again the horrid torture was renewed, and always with the same result, until at length, wearied with the long process, the commissioners committed him to prison, where he writes: 'I shall hope in the Lord, and ere long I shall be freed from tribulation, not by my own merits truly, but by Thee, O Lord.'

"After a final hearing, in which Savonarola affirmed all he had said was truth, he was pronounced a heretic, and with Domenico and Silvestro, his faithful friends, condemned to be hanged and burned on the Vigil of the Ascension. . . . .

"The 23d of May, 1498, arrived, and the brave monk was dragged to the place where but a brief while ago the bonfire of vanities had been lighted, and there, with shameful indignities, he and his fellow martyrs were degraded, denuded of the robes of their order, and delivered into the hands of the executioner. He ascended the fatal pile. Two papal commissioners had assembled with parade and pomp to direct the final arrangements. The white frock of the Dominican was first removed. Holding it in his hand Savonarola exclaimed: 'Holy robe, how much I longed to wear thee. Thou wast given to me by the grace of God, and to this day I have kept thee spotless.' The bishop of Verona then pronounced the terms of degradation. 'I separate thee from the church militant and the church triumphant,' to which the pale monk replied in calm tones, but tones that pierced through all the surging crowd, 'Militant—not triumphant—that is not thine.' And then with naked feet and pinioned arms they led him to the gibbet. One loving friend, more daring than the rest, stepped forth and whispered words of consolation in his ear. 'In the last hour God only can bring comfort to mortal man,' was the response. He pronounced the Apostles' Creed, and in another minute Savonarola and his two friends were hanging lifeless from the beam. They heaped huge piles of faggots, the fire was lighted, and an hour later the ashes of the martyrs were thrown from the Ponte Vecchio into the Arno.

"On each recurring anniversary of that morning the Florentines for many years were wont to strew with violets the place so sacred with its memories of constancy and faith."

A CATHOLIC ARRAIGNMENT OF CATHOLIC MONKS.

THE cowled monk, with ale-mug in hand, his round face wreathed in a convivial smile, has long been a favorite subject for the artist; but to the average layman the picture has seemed overdrawn for humor's sake. According to Rev. George Zurcher, a Roman Catholic pastor of Buffalo, however, the artist's picture is too near the truth. "Monks and Their Decline" is the title of a little pamphlet from his pen, nearly every page of which bristles with quotations from the church fathers.

It was in the early days, we are told, that the monks were notable examples of sobriety and abstinence. They shunned not only women and wine, but meat; and the monks of Bohemia were even careful not to drink too much water:

"For centuries total abstinence from intoxicants was one of the fundamental rules for all monks. No. 45 of St. Pachomius's rule says: 'Outside of the infirmary no one shall touch wine.' No. 42 of the rule would prevent a cunning monk from turning the infirmary into a Raines-law tavern. It says: 'Let no one enter the infirmary unless he be sick. Whoever shall be taken sick must be conducted to the infirmary by the superior. . . . Neither can one who is convalescing enter the cell of victuals, and eat what he desires unless he be accompanied by the infirmarian.' The rule of St. Pachomius spread through Palestine, Greece, Dalmatia, Ireland, France, England, Scotland, and Germany.

"The rule of St. Basil, another famous founder of an order of monks, is equally emphatic on the drink question. It says: 'The drinking of water, which is natural and answers a necessary want, is promulgated for all.' 'A monk must first of all abstain from the company of women and from the use of wine.'

"Chapter XIV. of the rule ascribed to St. Anthony the hermit says: 'Stay not where wine is served; nor ever eat any meat.'

"Of the monks of the Jordan we are told that 'the Word of God was their inexhaustible supply of food; and to the body they allowed only what is necessary, bread and water.'

"The first bishop of Tours, St. Martin, who was a friend of St. Patrick, made rules for thousands of monks in Gaul, of whom it was written: 'None knew wine unless he was compelled by infirmity.' St. Leander permitted wine to the infirm only.

"The monks of Bohemia were so abstemious that they did not even drink much water: 'It is well known to everybody that the monks use no other drink but water. Water even is given plentifully to the sick only; to others it is measured out.' The Scythian monks 'never knew wine, not even when suffering the severest illness.' . . . . .

"St. Jerome writes: 'I will not speak of my food and drink in those days, since even the weak monks are used to cold water, and look upon anything cooked as a luxury.'

"St. Athanasius writes in his life of St. Anthony the hermit: 'Of meat and wine I better make no mention, because nearly all monasteries never have anything of the kind.' St. Augustin says of monks: 'In order to better subdue the passions, the monks abstain not only from meat and wine, but also from such things as are apt to excite the appetite of the stomach or of the throat.'"

So much for the high character of the monk of early days. His decline began soon, it seems, for we read that the Benedictine monks needed a reformation eight hundred years ago, and are now ready for another:

"At the end of the eleventh century St. Bruno began his reform of Benedictine monks by founding the Order of Carthusians at Chartreuse near Grenoble. At first they lived solely on bread, water, and vegetables; now they monopolize the manufacture of one of the deadliest alcoholic brands in existence [referring to the brewery that forms part of the establishment of the Benedictine monks at Beatty, Pa., which was recently written up in *The Voice* and is the subject of some vigorous discussion just now in Catholic journals.—ED. LITERARY DIGEST]. They were not suppressed in France with other orders of monks because they swell the internal revenues of the French Government. It would seem that these monk distillers do not use much of the nerve-wrecking liquor so much in vogue among the squanderers in civilized nations. According to their rule they drink a little wine mixed with water, and at meal-time only."

The decline was making rapid progress by the sixteenth century. Bishop Lindan, in 1570, complained thus of the clergy of Belgium:

"No one can convince me that our Belgium will ever be freed from the almost universal prevalence of intemperance, unless we have priests who abstain from those things which are noxious to soul and body. . . . It is to be deplored that not a few of our monasteries have been converted into wine-funnels and beer-sewers. O immortal God! have those nurseries of all virtues, and especially of sobriety and abstinence, been really turned into taverns and abominable holes? When such monks chant the office, their minds wander toward drink, and their function is reduced to mere guttural bellowing and thundering sound."

To-day, matters are no better:

"If St. Augustin and St. Jerome had met our Benedictine monks, who run a brewery near Pittsburg, they would have looked upon them as clowns, or denounced them as frauds. . . . . .

"So many parishes in charge of Redemptorists, Jesuits, Franciscans, and other monk priests under the direct jurisdiction of the Pope, have used intoxicating liquors at their church festivals that it would be unfair to the many to mention a few."

But the monks of the early church were not only abstemious; they were heroic. They devoted their lives to the sick and the poor. The most serious charge against the monks of to-day is that they have deserted this noble work. The church might forgive them for caring for themselves if they would also care for others:

"Drink breeds nearly all the filth and bottomless degradation with which the slums of America are reeking. The majority of the people of the slums are Catholic by birth. In past times the monks were self-sacrificing enough to work so well among the most forsaken specimens of humanity that there was no need of poorhouses in Europe. Our monks could, if they wished, grapple with the cancer-like slum evil which is eating into the hearts of large cities."

What is the conclusion of the whole matter? If they have abandoned the noble work for which their order was founded and have ceased to shine as examples of holy living, the Holy Father may some day ask them the reason for their existence:

"The monk priests are under the immediate jurisdiction of the Pope, and if the Holy Father can not wean them somewhat from intoxicating beverages, from earthly lucre and bodily welfare, if he can not induce them to acquire more charity and to take care of the neglected children of the poor in the slums, the welfare both of the church and the race may demand that they be abolished."

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

THE FAR-EASTERN PRESS ON THE WAR.

THE press in the far East is, on the whole, very friendly to the United States in the present struggle; nor is Spain thought to have much chance of victory. Resistance of the Spanish fleet in the Philippines against the American squadron was, to quote the Yokohama *Gazette*, regarded as "out of the question." That it was attempted at all creates some astonishment. Many of our far-Eastern contemporaries are convinced that Great Britain will "see fair play." The *Hyogo News*, Kobe, says:

"Great Britain is more and more distinctly pro-American. If Spain receives any backing in the struggle a more than preponderant weight will be flung on the other scale of the balance between these two belligerents. Other complications might ensue therefrom, but it would weld an Anglo-Saxon bond that shall never, humanly speaking, be broken."

The Celestial Empire, Shanghai, thinks Spain deserves her fate, sad tho it be. The Hongkong *Telegraph* says:

"We feel sure that the British nation, if asked to vote, would decide by an overwhelming majority, if not quite unanimously, to assist the United States, not merely against Spain (in which case aid is hardly needed), but against all the powers of Europe which Spain might get on her side. We would like to see it tested. We British are not effusive, nor are we stirred easily by sentiment; but certainly we know our own brothers."

In the Hawaiian Islands the press, practically in American hands, is naturally on our side. *The Star*, Honolulu, thinks the present war is another step toward the inevitable rule of the Anglo-Saxon over the entire world. The Honolulu *Gazette* says:

"In these days, when human wisdom can not see clearly the position which the islands should assume, by reason of their intimate relations with the United States, the safest course politically and commercially is, to commit our destiny entirely into the hands of that nation. This is not the hour for the close balancing of chances. Fed by the rich bounty of its policy, we are bound to place ourselves at its disposal, if the case demands it, even if annexation is not an accomplished fact."

Friendly, too, is Australia, except among the strong socialistic element, whose opinion may be summarized by the following comment in *The Worker*, Sydney:

"It seems that quite a number of our people are eager to enlist under the Stars and Stripes in the probable American-Spanish war. . . . But if the supposed justice of the cause were the incentive, why not have proffered help to the Cuban rebels, who need the help, instead of waiting to take part with the Americans, who are quite powerful enough to look after their own undertakings and interests without assistance? . . . If any intervention affecting America were now justifiable, it would be hostile intervention in the direction of compelling her to stay her hand and leave a fair field to Cubans and Spaniards to settle their own quarrel, instead of taking advantage of their mutually involved condition to wrong them both."

The Japan Mail, Yokohama, is sure the Cuban rebellion will now assume overwhelming dimensions, and the rebels in the Philippines will not be kept down. "Poor Spain!" says that paper, "the waters of adversity are closing over her head!" The Japanese press, according to the summaries given by *The Mail*, is friendly, tho on the whole cautious. The *Nippon*, Tokyo, speaks of disaffected elements among the populations of *both* belligerents. The *Asahi* expresses itself to the following effect:

Japan sympathizes with both nations about to suffer the horrors of war. Spain's sovereignty over Cuba has evidently ceased to be real, and the Americans have decided to end the struggle. It is not easy to see how Spain, unable to crush the rebellion, can conquer the United States. The only thing she may do is to make descents upon the American coast, but her capacity to do even this must be doubted.

The *Jiji Shimpo* predicts that business will be very slack in the United States in consequence of the war, and there will be much financial trouble. It is curious to note that the Japanese, tho they expect an ultimate American victory, regard the smaller Spanish navy as better manned and better officered. The *Yomiuri* says, in effect:

The United States navy has a displacement of 170,000 tons, the Spanish navy only 100,000 tons; but the Spaniards handle their ships better than the Americans. But Spain will go under because she is weakened by domestic troubles. So far as right is concerned, the nations of the world would be on the side of Spain; but their interests prevent this. Thus, while ostensibly neutral, they will take sides as much as possible without compromising themselves. It is not likely that the war will last long. Spain can not push it vigorously, and the powers will probably intervene before long.

FOREIGN COMMENTS ON THE WAR.

WE find in the *Neuesten Nachrichten*, Berlin, one of the "Bismarck papers," the following paragraph:

"Despite the platonic sympathies of the German people for Spain, it is nonsense to speak of 'enmity' against the United States. Germany is connected with the United States by countless business and family relations, and despite their tariff system the Americans are still too valuable as customers to wish them harm or to treat them badly. In the present case we regard Uncle Sam as an old acquaintance who has gone on a tear and got himself into a quarrel. We hope he will have a bouncing headache when he sobers up, so that it may be possible to get him to listen to common sense."

Most of the German papers are wroth to find that England seeks to exploit their attitude for her purposes. Maximilian Harden, in the *Zukunft*, thunders against the "foolish sentimentalism" of the Germans, which enables John Bull to pose as "Uncle Sam's only friend." The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine* says that, at any rate, Germany does not, like England, rejoice because there is a fight. The *Kölnische Zeitung* says that if might is right, America is right; but objects to "the parading of humanitarian principles by the race which killed off the natives in America and Australia, against the race which, despite Cortez and Pizarro, preserved them." The *Kladderadatsch* thinks John Bull and Uncle Sam are "two of a kind; no wonder they agree."

There is much talk of intervention just now. Not in Germany, which, as the *Weser Zeitung* says, is not sufficiently interested in the quarrel to interfere, but in France, Austria, and Russia. To what extent France is willing to assist Spain is not yet clear. The *Independance Belge*, Brussels, says:

"The negotiations between France and Spain are based upon a preliminary agreement, entered upon some months ago. France is to assist Spain financially and diplomatically during the war, Spain encourages France's policy of expansion in Morocco. The oases of Tonat and the town of Melilla are to be given to France, which will also fortify Ceuta in the common interest. There is even some talk that important military positions in Spain will be given to France in case of a war, especially on the Andalusian coast, to offset Gibraltar."

The St. James's Gazette says:

"France would be very well disposed to aid Spain—partly because she has vast quantities of money invested in that country, but more because the use of the many excellent Spanish ports all round the coast would be most useful to her in war, and it would be a disaster if the Government at Madrid were to be provoked into letting some enemy have the benefit of them. Russia is bound to back up France. . . . Spain could give the free use of Ceuta to France or Russia. . . . Then she could put those designs of fortifying the west side of Gibraltar bay from Carnero Point to Algeciras into execution. This would mean that the rock would

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be menaced on all sides, and would therefore be an unfriendly step against us. Yet supposing it to be taken, as it may be, are we to meet it by counter-action, or what?"

The Spaniards profess to be delighted with the idea of an Anglo-Saxon union, which, they think, would be regarded as a threat against the peace of the world, and would lead to the formation of a counter combination. Many Englishmen seem to hold similar opinions. In the *Mundo Naval*, Madrid, in an article credited to an English source, Anglo-Saxonism is discredited on the ground that Great Britain and the United States are hardly powerful enough to challenge the world. Some English and Canadian papers fear that Germany alone would benefit by an Anglo-Saxon union, as she could lead a counter combination; but most papers in Great Britain and the colonies believe that the progress of civilization and the advance of humanitarian principles are impossible unless the English-speaking nations rule the world. The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, fears Europe may have to interfere in the war for precisely the same reasons the United States has given for beginning it. We summarize as follows:

It seems very doubtful that the United States is willing to force the fighting. It is in the interest not only of Spain but of the whole world that the war should be ended one way or the other by a succession of quick blows. But the aggressor in this struggle, the United States, is either unwilling or unable to deal a crushing blow. It seems that the Americans intend to tire out the Spaniards, in the hope that impoverished Spain may be forced to relinquish Cuba without a final struggle. Should Spain hold out until October, then the United States will send her fresh troops against the wornout army of Spain and finish the business. But will Europe permit this course to be followed? The war is of great importance, not only because it involves the financial ruin of Spain, but because it disturbs the economic balance of the Old World. The governments of those countries which have already experienced trouble and have to fear a repetition are bound to hold themselves in readiness to intervene.

However doubtful intervention for the purpose of ending the war seems at this date, few doubts exist abroad that the United States will have other governments besides that of her adversary to deal with when the peace negotiations have begun. The *Echo*, Berlin, says:

"The Spaniards are convinced that the British Government was prevented by Germany from profiting by the situation in the Philippines. It is rumored that the German ambassador informed Lord Salisbury that Germany, too, would be forced to land forces in Manila if a British detachment went ashore. Lord Salisbury disclaimed all intention to order a landing. Germany and Great Britain agreed to leave the question of the Philippines an open one until after the war. At any rate, the attitude of Germany has made it very difficult for Great Britain and the United States to negotiate in the matter."

The *Independance Belge*, Brussels, is informed that Germany opposes equally a transfer of the Philippines to France. Germany left Spain, as the rightful owner, in undisturbed possession; but if Spain loses the group, she is determined to have her share. The *Freie Presse*, Vienna, says:

"This has nothing to do with sentimental sympathy for Spain. Germany, England, Russia, and France have real interests to defend against a dangerous and grasping competitor. What is Kiao-Chou, Port Arthur, or Wei-hai-Wei to the rich Philippines? . . . Is it not natural that the cabinets of Europe think of ending the war ere their own countries are involved?"

The editor of the Berlin *Tageblatt*, in an interview with an American reporter, expressed himself confident that Germany "would not play the part of Cinderella if the Spanish possessions are to be divided." Most European papers nevertheless agree that it is useless to talk of dividing the Spanish colonies until Spain has shown herself unable to protect them.

And Spain is making a better stand than was expected. Referring to Admiral Cervera's cruise and his evident intention to await reinforcements at Santiago de Cuba, *The Speaker*, London, says:

"What the ulterior naval objects of the Spanish admiral may be we do not precisely know; but there is no doubt that on the political side his action has been a success. It has irritated American feeling, scared some of the populations along the coasts, and increased the impatience and the irritation which are rising, as it is found that the war is not a triumphal parade. . . . . .

"But we incline to think, not only that the real use of the movements is less naval than political, but that it is meant less for use in America than in Europe. For one thing, it encourages the Spanish people to be patient. . . . Every delay is a gain to the safety of Spain. Possibly the collapse, when it comes, will only be more complete."

Politiken, Copenhagen, thinks American naval strategy disappointing, as the Americans did not manage to force the Spaniard into a fight. The blockade of Havana is regarded as practically at an end, and the opinion of the captain of the *Montserrat*, who was thrice in Havana while Sampson's fleet was still before it, is quoted to show that Cervera practically tied up the American fleet. He thinks Cervera can leave Santiago whenever he pleases, as the American ships can not lie close enough to prevent him, especially at night. The bombardments of Havana and New York are again discussed, the former as a certainty, the latter as a possibility. *The Weekly Scotsman*, Edinburgh, says:

"The hope that the insurgents would be able to make any headway against the Spanish soldiers has been abandoned. It is no longer believed that in so rich and fertile an island Marshal Blanco's soldiers can be starved out. The petty bombardments of the Cuban seaports by the American vessels have hitherto resulted in nothing, save, perhaps, to encourage the defenders. The time has come for beginning warlike operations on a large scale. It is well that President McKinley does not underrate the strength of the Spanish garrison. Even with a powerful fleet covering the convoys, the operation of landing a large force in the face of certain resistance from the shore will not be easy. Nor will the position of the army of occupation, which must mainly consist of volunteers, be enviable at first. But American pluck and determination may be trusted to assert themselves."

It is feared that the Americans, by bombarding cities without notice, have created a bad precedent. The report that American ships approached the Cuban shore under the Spanish flag evokes censure; our sympathizers ask for an official American denial, altho such practise is not against the rules of warfare. The most severe criticism is, however, expended upon our land forces and the manner in which we prepare them for actual service. Our Canadian neighbors say we show them how *not* to do it. *The Witness*, Montreal, says:

"The great mass of the troops so quickly got together is composed of young men, many of whom might be rated as boys. . . . To make matters worse, there is a great deal of sickness among these raw levies, a fact that the strictest censorship can not prevent from becoming known. . . . There is no reason why these men should not be properly fed while in their own country, where the supplies of food are abundant. From the single point of view of economy it would be cheaper to feed these lads carefully with food suited to the climate than to lose them. . . . Anything that weakens the confidence of the soldier in those over him or gives him good ground for writing home rebellious letters strikes at the fundamental conditions of success and prepares the way for all sorts of misfortunes. . . . It is easy to understand why General Merritt would not go to the Philippines without a round lot of regulars, and why General Miles was determined to rely mainly on these for the invasion of Cuba."

The *Independance Belge* relates that the troops are not only not properly fed, but that they are not clothed and not paid. "At Key West," says the paper, "a regular reign of terror has been established by the troops." Especially the negroes are accused of organized robbery, and the authorities are powerless to restrain them. "And these," says the *Nieuws van den Dag*, "are the

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people who undertake to create 'order' in Cuba!" *The Spectator*, London, says:

"We believe, unlike the continentals, that the effect of what is now going on, especially if the period of non-success lasts for any time, will be to make of Americans a much more warlike people. . . . They begin to perceive that to strike hard at sea, even against a second-class power, they need more ships, that these ships must be armored, must be provided with great guns, and must be able to attain great speeds, and that such ships in war-time can neither be purchased—a great surprise to many Americans, who thought they could buy whole fleets ready made—nor improvised. . . . Nothing could be so galling to Americans as to be 'belittled' thus, and reduced to the level of Japan or Turkey, which must take orders from the 'concert,' except, indeed, the feeling that if they were so menaced their means of defense, without alliances, are hopelessly inadequate. It is a very sensitive people whose fate the Continent is discussing, as well as a people of boundless wealth; and a menace such as that which underlies the story of the sale of the Philippines to France, while Admiral Dewey is still in the harbor of Manilla, is enough of itself to call an American fleet into being. . . . Nothing is ever done in a moment even in America; but if the Union is ever again caught with an inadequate fleet, and an army which can not spare a small *corps d'armée* for emergent duty, we shall be greatly surprised. Half the money now wasted on pensions would make the United States a great sea power."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

PRINCE HENRY IN CHINA.

PRINCE HENRY of Prussia, brother of the German Emperor and admiral of the German squadron in the far East, has been received on equal terms by the Emperor of China, who afterward returned the visit in another room of the palace. This marks a departure from long-established Chinese customs, for until recently the Chinese adhered to the fiction that they are absolute masters of the world, and that the civilization of other nations is of such low standard that the Emperor could not possibly associate with his "barbarous tributaries." The Emperor is reported to have borne well the ordeal, tho the rattle of the German drums, when the marines saluted, startled him somewhat. The Emperor has for some time past prepared for intercourse with foreigners by learning foreign languages. This is another innovation, as it was formerly considered below the dignity of a high-born Chinaman to understand any language but his own, and even the middle classes thought Chinese sufficient for them. We summarize from the *Lokal Anzeiger*, Berlin, the following regarding the importance of Prince Henry's visit:

When the Duke of Edinburgh was in Peking he did not see the Chinese Emperor, and even the present Czar of Russia, during his trip around the world in 1891, could not break through Chinese etiquette sufficiently to insure a reception worthy of his rank. Prince Henry's visit may be of advantage to Germany in particular, as well as to the world in general. When the Chinese first came into contact with Europeans they demanded of the foreign ambassadors the *kow-tow*, *i.e.*, three times kneeling with nine times lowering of the head to the ground. Few foreign representatives were willing to accede to this. Lord Macartney, in 1793, was willing to *kow-tow* if a Chinese official of his own rank were to perform the same ceremony before the picture of George III. The Chinese revenged themselves by making use of Lord Macartney's ignorance of Chinese. On the barge which conveyed him down the Peiho they painted the legend, "This ambassador brings the tribute of England." In 1873 the foreign ambassadors were still received in a building used for the reception of tributaries, according to Curzon in his "Problems in the far East"; v. Brandt, however, in his "Aus dem Lande des Zopfer," denies that the building was called the Hall of Conquered Nations. At any rate, the French and Russian ambassadors refused to appear in this hall when Emperor Kwang-Su was declared of age in 1891. In 1892 another concession was made, when v. Brandt was allowed to enter through the main portal of the palace, and last September the Emperor received the credentials of the Swedish ambassador with his own hand. To the Germans, whose customs are so simple that even coronations are not necessary with them in these days, all this seems unimportant and ridiculous. But the Chinese, who think their superiority is established if they claim it, must be compelled outwardly to admit the equality of others, and Prince Henry's reception can not fail to impress them.

Much credit is due to the Empress-Dowager of China, who prevailed upon the Emperor to place himself in communication with foreign potentates and has granted Prince Henry's wish that the wives of the ambassadors be received at court.—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Condition of Italy.—That Italy is in danger of a revolution has been revealed by the recent riots. The dissatisfaction of the people is not, however, with the monarchy, but rather with the abuses which the constitutional *régime* allows to continue. We take the following description from the *Staatsbürger Zeitung*, Berlin:

"In Italy the land is almost exclusively in the hands of wealthy owners, who lease their estates for 50 to 62½ per cent. of the gross production. The rental is not allowed to fall below a certain minimum. If the tenant can not pay up in one year, his debt goes to the next. Hence he is always in debt. The tenants are mostly analphabets, and the landlords' stewards rob them right and left. The tenants have been promised for years the right to buy out the landlords, but the latter have been able to prevent the realization of this plan. Italy to-day is in a similar state with the Roman republic in its fourth period. Actually the tenants are nothing better than slaves. Ruined fields, destroyed forests, unregulated rivers, and impoverished towns are the result.

"In the cities an army of useless officials exercise their corrupt sway. Pisa has only 25,000 inhabitants, but it has nearly 1,000 'officials' of some sort or other.

"The soil of Italy is rich, it should bear thirtyfold, yet the harvests are only tenfold. But the people are tired of working for the 'signori,' who waste their money in Paris and at Monte Carlo, or for the thievish officials. The people hope for reform through the King. He knows of these abuses and will cause reform, for reform is necessary not only in the interest of the people but of the monarchy."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

FOREIGN NOTES.

THE men who recently attacked King George of Greece have been sentenced to death. The plea of insanity was of no avail for Karditzi, the principal of the would-be assassins, and the declaration of Georgis that he fired in the air when the King showed such courage did not receive attention as an extenuating circumstance.

THE *Independance Belge* hears that Austria is increasing her navy in order to get a slice of China ere that country is all divided up. At present the Austrian fleet is somewhat obsolete. It contains only 15 armored ships, mostly of an older type. There are, however, nearly 80 modern torpedo-boats. Italy, whose navy could not hold its own against that of Austria in 1866, has now 35 armored ships and 200 torpedo-boats.

ACCORDING to the Berlin *Tageblatt*, conscription has much lowered the standard of height among the soldiers of the world. In the German it is now only 1.54 meters (60.63 inches), excepting the Imperial Guards. The latter, comprising in themselves an army of 180,000 on a war footing, are 1.70 meters (66.93 inches), and above. In the British army the height is 1.65 meters (64.96 inches) which shows the tall growth of the average Englishman. Frenchman and Spaniards are taken at 1.54, Italians at 1.55 meters (61 inches), the same as in Austria. The Russian minimum is 1.54, in the United States it is 1.619 meters (63.78 inches.)

THE *Rundschau*, Berlin, relates some interesting details regarding the war indemnity paid by France to Germany. France, it will be remembered, had to pay $1,000,000,000. At one time the Minister of Finance, Poyer-Quertier, was forced to stop payment, not because there was no money, but because of a dearth of linen bags. Germany furnished the bags. H. v. Poschinger remarks in his memoirs that France exhibited at that time the most scrupulous integrity. The bags were received by the Germans without scrutiny, but not a centime was wanted when the money was counted. The only mistake made by the French officials was when they included in a package of bank-notes a bogus 100 thaler bill (Prussian). It looked all right, but it had been made by a Parisian engraver, who substituted for the usual warning against counterfeiting the following legend in German: "Whoever hands over to the French Government William or Bismarck will be paid 10,000,000 francs." The bill was purchased at its face value by a collector of curios.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

CONTEMPORARY OPINION OF LINCOLN'S GETTYSBURG SPEECH.

LINCOLN'S Gettysburg address, now so generally conceded to be a classic of literature, was, according to the testimony of the late Col. Ward Hill Lamon, an old friend of Lincoln's, a disappointment to his contemporaries, and especially to those who heard it. Colonel Lamon, who was one of Lincoln's aids on the occasion of the delivery of the speech, in a conversation just before his death (in 1892) with George E. Sterne, declared that, altho he knew Lincoln always possessed "fine ability to clothe his thoughts in language at once graceful, forceful, terse, eloquent, and simple," yet he, like others who were near the President, did not always comprehend "the full importance and the lasting qualities of his rhetoric." Of the Gettysburg speech, Colonel Lamon said: "I know it by heart now; yet, will you believe me, I learned to appreciate it only when I found it in the columns of the London *Spectator* and *The Saturday Review*, and the majority of Americans of that time felt as I did about it."

The circumstances attending the delivery of the speech and the unfavorable impression made by it are thus recounted by Mr. Sterne (in the New York *Press*) in Colonel Lamon's words:

"Being responsible for the President's safety, I attended him on the platform which overlooked Gettysburg battle-field and the grounds set apart for the burial of the slain heroes of the Army of the Potomac on November 19, 1863. The Honorable Edward Everett delivered the oration of the day. Lincoln, on petition of the governors of the several States, had volunteered to consecrate the grounds to their sacred use by a few appropriate remarks.

"Mr. Everett's address was worthy of the solemn occasion and of his great fame as an orator. He was tumultuously applauded. While the President delivered his few hundred words the multitude observed perfect silence. One might have been able to hear the proverbial pin drop.

"As for me, I recognized the brief address, Lincoln having read the first draft to me a few days previous. This took place at my house in Washington, whither the President had come to spend the evening. On removing his hat on that occasion a folded sheet of foolscap paper dropped out.

"'I will read that to you, Hill,' he had said. 'It is a memorandum of my forthcoming address. But, let me tell you, it is not at all satisfactory to me. You know, I am driven to death nowadays; still, the public will expect a supreme effort, nevertheless. I am afraid, tho, it will be disappointed this time.'

"What the Gettysburg audience thought of the speech I do not pretend to know. At any rate, the people indulged in no demonstrations; but we, on the platform, I am ashamed to say, felt much depressed on account of it. Mr. Everett, answering a whispered question from Secretary Seward, bluntly said: 'I am disappointed. It was not what I expected from Lincoln.'

"'And what is your opinion, Mr. Seward?' added Everett. Mr. Seward replied: 'He has made a botch of it, and I am very sorry. That speech was not worthy of Lincoln.'

"The Secretary of State then asked my judgment. I could only regretfully indorse the criticisms already passed, for I felt, with the rest of Lincoln's friends, that his speech was not up to the mark."

Various biographies of Lincoln have recorded that the speech was received with "cheers by some, with sobs and tears by others." Colonel Lamon was asked to explain this apparent discrepancy between his and other reports. "I know," he said—

"but let me tell you that I am the only Lincoln biographer who was on that platform at Gettysburg. The others got their material second-hand, and among these writers were many who, during Lincoln's lifetime, had run to their wits' ends to blackguard the President. After his death they fell in with the general throng and lauded him to the sky. They positively invented so-called facts and incidents calculated to glorify Lincoln, and the apotheosis of the Gettysburg speech was only one of these maneuvers.

"I repeat, there were only perfunctory demonstrations of approval at the conclusion of Lincoln's remarks. Moreover, the President himself felt that he had made a failure. 'Lamon,' he said, shortly after it was finished, 'that speech won't scour. It's a flat failure, and the people are disappointed.' 'Won't scour' was Lincoln's favorite expression for lack of merit.

"Later on, at Washington, the President returned to the subject. 'Hill,' he said, 'I tell you, that speech fell on the audience like a wet blanket. It distresses me to think of it. I ought to have prepared it with greater care.' Similar remarks I heard from his lips time and again in after years."

The newspapers of the day were very severe in their criticisms of the speech, according to Colonel Lamon:

"If a single word of praise was printed about the Gettysburg speech in 1863 I don't remember it. Most of the papers jumped on the President for using the phrase, 'the government of the people, by the people, and for the people,' calling him a plagiarist. This charge hurt Lincoln deeply. When he spoke those he never suspected that they would be regarded as original. The thought, you know, is as old as the republican idea of government, and this particular phrase had been a household word with Lincoln for years previous to Gettysburg."

LIEUTENANT PEARY IN THE WHITE NORTH.

IN July, Lieut. R. E. Peary will leave the United States on his systematic campaign to reach the North Pole. During the last year he has done a great deal of work storing provisions along the coasts of Greenland and fitting out his ship, just arrived from England, a present to him from the Royal Geographical Society. He will go prepared this time to remain long enough to determine whether or not it is possible by his methods and route to reach the Pole.

From 1886 to 1897 he has made four several voyages to Greenland, and, with the exception of Nansen, has gone nearer to the Pole than any other Arctic explorer. Peary never left home with the sole and expressed purpose of reaching the Pole, as most of the Arctic voyagers have done. His avowed purpose was to study and map the northern confines of Greenland, and to learn, if possible, if there was an all-land route by way of Greenland to the Pole or its neighborhood.

But the two most valuable features of Peary's work in the "White North" have been his observations of the Greenland "Ice Cap" and the study of the small tribe of Eskimos at Smith Sound. He has just had published, "Northward Over the 'Great Ice,'" a book in two volumes, profusely and most excellently illustrated, and embodying detailed descriptions of these four voyages.

To follow Peary in this ice desert of the North, one must first get his general conception of Greenland. "Stretching southward over the swelling bosom of the earth, Greenland is the pendant brooch in the glittering necklace of snow and ice which circles the North Pole. It is an Arctic island continent, the most interesting of Arctic lands; a land of startling contrasts; a land of midnight suns and noonday nights; of tropical skies and eternal ice; of mountains with sides still tinged with the deep warm glow of ancient volcanic fires and summits hid beneath caps of everlasting snow."

Greenland is a land of mystery, a source of constantly increasing interest and speculation. "It has been traced farther into the *terra incognita* that encompasses the Pole than any other land on the globe, and there are reasons for thinking that its northern headlands may be one abutment of a bridge of islands, over which, through years of Arctic summer days and winter nights, a portion of the human race migrated from Siberia via the Pole to this hemisphere. Its interior is the last of those glacial conditions which for ages submerged northern Europe and northern North America in its icy flood."

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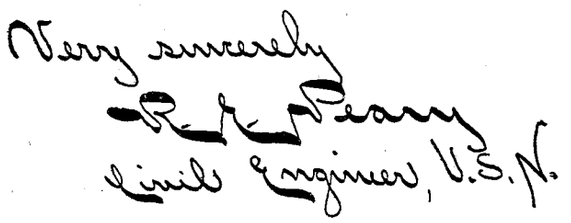
The interior of Greenland is an unbroken plateau of snow, lifted from five to eight thousand feet above the level of the sea; a huge, white glistening shield some twelve hundred miles in length and five hundred miles in width, resting on the supporting mountains. It is an Arctic Sahara in comparison with which the

Reduced from "Northward." Courtesy of Frederick A. Stokes Company, New York.



African Sahara is insignificant. There is no form of life, animal or vegetable; no fragment of rock, no grain of sand, is visible. The traveler sees outside of himself and his own party but three things in all the world, the infinite expanse of the frozen plain, the infinite dome of the cold blue sky, and the cold white sun—nothing but these. Peary tells us that it was to this high plateau that he with his men, dogs, and sledges climbed and here did most of his traveling, in contradistinction to the average Arctic explorer, who in making his way North hugged the coasts of the Arctic seas. It was upon this bleak and barren expanse that he and his party (including his wife) journeyed for days and weeks at a time, peering farther and farther into the unknown North in search for one of the great goals that must be reached to satisfy one of the highest ambitions of the human race.

The surface of this plain of "inland ice" is not ice, but a compacted snow, and when the traveler has penetrated fifteen or twenty miles into the interior, he may travel for days and weeks with no break whatever in the continuity of the sharp steel-blue line of the horizon, so level is the plain.

Whether this enormous deposit of snow and ice is decreasing or increasing is of course one of the most interesting of questions to geologists and glacialists. It might seem most natural to suppose it is increasing, but there are causes at work inimical to such increase, such as the migration of the glaciers to the sea, the wind, and the evaporation and melting.

One of the most important peculiarities of this ice cap is the intensity of the light. In the summer the sun is constantly above the horizon, during the whole of the twenty-four hours for four months. This Arctic sun in clear weather is as brilliant as the most brilliant sun in Southern latitudes, and when this brilliancy is increased by reflection from an interminable and absolutely unrelieved glistening white surface of snow, lifted into the highly rarefied and pure upper strata of Arctic atmosphere, the intensity of the light is beyond the conception of one who has not realized it. A man placed in the center of the "Great Ice" in midsummer, without protection, would be as helpless in a few hours as a blind kitten. The men had to bandage their eyes in order to sleep, as the light penetrated through the lids.

But the phenomena were equally as blinding when the sky was overhung with clouds:

"Many a time I have found myself in such weather traveling in gray space, feeling the snow beneath my snow-shoes, but unable to see it. No sun, no sky, no snow, no horizon—absolutely nothing that the eye could rest upon. Zenith and nadir alike, an intangible nothingness. My feet and snow-shoes were sharp and clear as silhouettes, and I was sensible of contact with the snow at every step; yet, so far as my eyes gave me evidence to the contrary, I was walking upon nothing. The space between my snow-shoes was equally as light as the zenith. The opaque light which filled the sphere of vision might come from below as well as above. Never shall I forget, tho I can not describe, the impressions made by these surroundings. The strain, both physical and mental, of this blindness with wide-open eyes was such that,

Reduced from "Northward." Courtesy of Frederick A. Stokes Company, New York.

after a time, I would be obliged to stop until the passing of the fog or formation of higher clouds gave me something to keep the course by."

The wind on the "Great Ice" is never quiescent. It is constantly sweeping down, with greater or less velocity, from the frozen heart of the "Great Ice," and frequently bearing with it a burden of snow. In the savage blizzards that visit this frozen Sahara, the drift of snow becomes a hissing, roaring, blinding,

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suffocating Niagara, rising hundreds of feet in the air. It is almost impossible for one to breathe, and the snow is as penetrating as water. The blizzard, if it does not soon overwhelm one, will set him mad with torture.

Lieutenant Peary says that in the middle of the Arctic night in the center of this "Great Ice," lifted a mile to two miles into the frozen air that sweeps around the Pole, separated from all possible effects of the earth's radiated heat by a blanket of ice and snow a mile or more deep, is to be found the fiercest degree of cold in any spot on the surface of the globe:

"An experienced navigator of the 'Great Ice' has, like his brother of the sea, the means of avoiding or overcoming adverse conditions. If he has come into close proximity to the land, *i.e.*, the edge of the ice, and finds himself among the rocks and breakers, *i.e.*, crevasses and deep blue ice slopes, he must put to sea at once, *i.e.*, swerve into the interior. If, when well out to sea, he encounters continuous adverse winds and currents and heavy seas, *i.e.*, up grade and deep soft snow, he can avoid them by veering toward the shore, when he will at once reduce the grade and in a short time reach hard-going."

Lieutenant Peary thinks that but for the radial motion of the wind from the center of the "Great Ice" the Greenland ice-cap, from the frequent falls of snow, would have long since grown out of all proportion to the surface of the earth elsewhere.

He describes at some length how the fjords, gulches, and crevasses eat their way from the coasts into the "Great Ice" during the summer. In traveling northward over this vast plain, he frequently had to change his course. These constituted the great obstacles to his advance in the direction of the Pole. Concerning his plans to overcome such obstacles he says:

"My comprehensive scheme for work in Greenland as first outlined by me in 1886, based upon the utilization of the inland ice for overland sledge journeys and my subsequent development and execution in actual practise of methods, means, and details, justify me, I think, in claiming to have originated a new departure in Arctic work. Since my origination of that departure, Nansen has crossed Greenland; Conway has crossed Spitzbergen; and if our present idea of the conditions in the Antarctic be correct, it is entirely within the possibilities that the conqueror of the South Pole will achieve success by adopting my methods and equipment. My long sledge journey across the ice-cap in 1892 was a typical illustration of my ideas. It presents my insistent features: the inland ice for a road, dogs for traction, a party of two."

He declares that his plan of utilizing dogs for dog food, and having the men eat the last dog on the last three or four days' return home, enabled Nansen to go nearer the Pole than he could possibly have done otherwise. This dog diet for dogs, and, finally, for men, made it possible to travel for weeks and months on the overland journey, whereas previously to this the voyager had to battle through the ice packs along the coast.

Peary also found it convenient to discard the sleeping-bag, in which Nansen almost suffocated. His detailed knowledge of the Smith Sound region has enabled him to point out the best localities for scientists to study their specialties, and, as a result of his voyages, science has accumulated an immense fund of knowledge, especially on glaciology.

But in this far "White North" one turns with genuinely human interest to the little tribe of Eskimos in their complete isolation and self-dependence, under hostile conditions such as man nowhere else upon the globe is obliged to meet:

"Scattered along the shores of the Arctic oasis, already described, this little tribe, or perhaps, more properly speaking, family of Eskimos—for they number but two hundred and fifty-three in all, men, women, and children—is found maintaining its existence in complete isolation and independence under the utmost stress of savage environments. Without government; without religion; without money or any standard of value; without written language; without property, except clothing and weapons; their food nothing but meat, blood, and blubber; without salt or any substance of vegetable origin; their clothing the skin of birds and animals; almost their only two objects in life, something to eat and something with which to clothe themselves, and their sole occupation the struggle for these objects; with habits and conditions of life hardly above the animal, these people seem at first to be very near the bottom of the scale of civilization; yet closer acquaintance shows them to be quick, intelligent, ingenious, and thoroughly human. . . . To them such an ordinary thing as a piece of wood was just as unattainable as is the moon to the petulant child that cries for it. A man offered me his dogs and sledge and all his furs for a bit of board as long as himself; another offered me his wife and two children for a skinning knife; and a woman offered me everything she had for a needle."

These people are children in their simplicity, honesty, and happy lack of all care; animals in their surroundings, food, and habits; and iron men in their utter disregard of cold, hunger, and fatigue; and highly intelligent in the chase and the construction of means for an existence.

Lieutenant Peary says the Eskimos are undoubtedly of the Mongolian type and very probably came across the Pole from Siberia. They have nothing more than a very vague notion of their origin, but their tradition is that they came from somewhere farther North:

"There is no form of government among them, no chief, each man being supreme in his own family and literally and absolutely his own master. Such a thing as real-estate interest is unknown to them. Every man owns the whole country and can locate his house and hunt where his fancy dictates. The products of the hunt are common property with slight limitations. . . . Anything smaller than a seal being the property of the hunter who captures it; yet unwritten laws requires him to be generous even with this, if he can do so without starving his family. . . . . .

"Their ideas of astronomy are definite, tho necessarily limited. They recognize the great dipper as a herd of reindeers; the three triangular stars of Cassiopeia are the three stones supporting a celestial stone lamp; the Pleiades are a team of dogs in pursuit of a bear; the three glittering brilliants of the belt of Orion are the steps put by some celestial Eskimo in a steep snow-bank to enable him to climb to the top; Gemini are two stones in the entrance to an igloo (Eskimo house); Arcturus and Aldebaran are personifications, and the moon and the sun are a maiden and her pursuing lover. These Eskimos estimate time by the movement of the stars as well as by the position of the sun, and yet, less observant than were the Arab shepherds, they have not noticed that one star is the center about which all the others move, nor have they set apart the planets, which to them are simply large stars. Probably this is due to the fact that the movement of the stars can be observed during only three months of the year. . . .

"As regards morals, these peoples do not stand high according to our scale. The wife is as much a piece of personal property which may be sold, exchanged, loaned, or borrowed as a sledge or canoe. It must be said in their favor, however, that children as well as aged and infirm members of the tribe are well taken care of, and that for the former the parents evince the liveliest affection."

They have no marriage ceremony. Couples are betrothed when children, and when the female becomes eligible for marriage before the male, her intended husband, she is usually appropriated by some other man, whose wife has died, and she is made to serve this man as a wife until her intended becomes sufficiently matured. Young couples frequently change partners during the first year or two of their married life, and, when finally suited, settle down.

Of religion, properly speaking, they have none. The nearest approach to it is simply a collection of miscellaneous superstitions and belief in good and evil spirits. It may be said in relation to this latter subject, that information in regard to it is extremely difficult to obtain, and probably the bottom facts will be known only when some enthusiast is willing to devote five or six years of his time to living with them and doing as they do, becoming, in fact, one of them.

"They have no unnatural or depraved appetites or habits; no stimulants or intoxicants; no narcotics, no slow poisoning. Nor do they in any way mutilate or disfigure the form the Creator gave them or modify or pervert the natural functions. Neither have they any medicines. Their diseases are principally rheumatism and lung and bronchial troubles. The causes of death among the men come largely under the terse Western expression, 'with their boots on.' . . . . . .

"To many a good person the thought at once arises: 'Poor things; why don't we send some missionaries to them and convert and civilize them? Or why wouldn't it be a good plan to take them away from their awful home to a pleasanter region?' To both these I answer at once: 'God willing, never, either.' When I think of the mixed race in South Greenland, which, in spite of the fostering care of the Danish Government, is still like most half-breed human products, inferior to either original stock; when I recall the miserable wretches along the west coast of Baffin Bay, vile with disease, vitiated with rum, tobacco, and contact with the whalers, and then think of my uncontaminated, pure-blooded, vigorous, faithful little tribe, I say: 'No; God grant no civilization to curse them.' What I have done in the past and shall continue to do in the future is to put them in a little better position to carry on their struggle for existence; give them better weapons and implements and lumber to make their dwellings dryer, instructions in a few fundamental sanitary principles, and one or two items of civilized food, as coffee and biscuit—allies to rout the demons starvation and cold."

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BUSINESS SITUATION.

The markets are growing steadier as the Spanish cause weakens. Says *Dun's Review:* "Every step of progress during the week which has looked toward an early termination of the struggle has been reflected in the market and in lower rates for money. All industries have felt the uplifting influence."

Exports are still greatly in excess of imports. Cotton is stronger, and bank clearings continue heavy. Iron and steel production has declined a little. Railway earnings have gained.

Failures for the Week.—"Business failures this week number 221, an increase over last week of 43, but comparing with a total in this week last year of 256, in 1896 of 234, in 1895 of 232, and in 1894 of 227. Bank clearings in the United States this week aggregate $1,324,766,412, 14.5 per cent. larger than last week, which included a holiday; 32 per cent. larger than in this week a year ago, 42 per cent. larger than in 1896, 58 per cent. larger than in 1894, and even 35 per cent. larger than in this week of 1890, a year of very large business."—*Bradstreet's, June 11.*

Exports and Incoming Gold.—"The exports of merchandise from New York during the past week have exceeded those for the corresponding week last year by 40 per cent. This means another heavy excess of exports over imports, as the imports have fallen 28 per cent. below those of last year, and the balance would be about $40,000,000 for the month if the returns should continue to show a like difference. Men have been buying and selling stocks with some blindness, tho the course of events has all the time warranted a higher market. Other countries have yet to pay in some way an enormous balance to the United States on merchandise transactions, and it will save speculators much trouble and loss to keep the fact in mind. Gold has stopped coming this way, because American bankers can better afford to make loans abroad; but the balance yet to be liquidated has not been diminished in the least thereby, the accumulation of gold has less effect as yet than it will have."—*Dun's Review, June 11.*

Railway Earnings.—"Steady and large gains in gross railway earnings so far this year foreshadow very satisfactory earnings for a period usually regarded as a 'lean' time in transportation matters. The total earnings of 112 roads for the month of May aggregate $44,504,000, an aggregate larger than that of April, and 13.7 larger than that in May a year ago, emphasizing the effect of the heavy grain business done by Western railroads as a result of the bulge in cash wheat. The Pacific roads, the Grangers, and the Central-Western lines made relatively the best showings; but the quieting down of the Klondike boom is reflected in the smaller percentage of increase on the first named, which still lead in percentage of gain, however. The total earnings of 113 companies for five months ending with May aggregate $215,542,000, an increase of 15.2 per cent. over May a year ago, and following progressive gains in corresponding periods of previous years."—*Bradstreet's, June 11.*

Wool and Carpets.—"The woolen manufacturers are buying no wool, and the sales at the three chief markets during the past week were only 2,549,300 pounds, against 4,878,750 in 1892. The manufacturing works are running steadily, without inquiry for more wool, as if they had on hand material for a year to come. It is the plain truth that dealers here and at the West have greatly underestimated the stock of wool held by the mills. But the demand for goods proves somewhat better in many directions than was expected, and the government requirements have compelled some manufacturers to buy somewhat largely grades of wool which they have not expected to require. The auction sale of carpets, resulting in prices said to average 50 per cent. below the list quotations, does not encourage buying, and in carpet wools the market is decidedly tame."—*Dun's Review, June 11.*

Canadian Trade.—"Business in the Dominion of Canada continues very satisfactory. The crop outlook, improved by copious rains, has stimulated purchases for the fall trade. Toronto reports large imports of European manufactures, anticipating the effect of the preference given British goods under the new tariff. Canadian oil-cloth manufacturers are shutting out American goods by means of price reductions, and New York and Chicago have bought low-grade teas at Toronto at good prices. New wool is selling within a few cents of the price paid last year before the duty of 12 cents imposed by the United States went into effect. Montreal reports a satisfactory trade in nearly all lines, with business up to an average. Business is good at Halifax, and the good crop situation makes the outlook hopeful for fall trade. A satisfactory business is doing at Vancouver and Victoria, and the demand for the mining districts is improving. Business failures in the Dominion of Canada this week number 26, against 21 last week, 38 in this week a year ago, 38 in 1896, and 21 in 1895. Canadian bank clearings this week aggregate $28,472,000, 3 per cent. larger than last week and 11.4 per cent. larger than in the corresponding week last year."—*Bradstreet's, June 11.*

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Sarah Tyson Rorer, the famous food expert, answered the question, Are bananas good to eat uncooked? "No, except in the countries where they grow."

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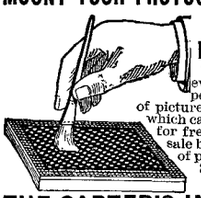

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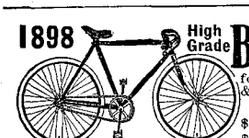

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I have another old man, who travels much on the road peddling, who has been lame with rheumatism for five years, and one bottle cured all lameness, and he says he has not felt as well in five years as now. These are only the two worst cases of many that I have tried it on."

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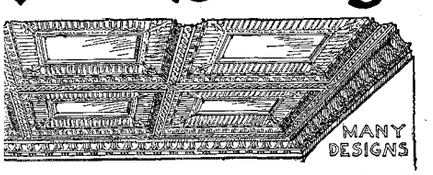

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PERSONALS.

ERNEST T. HOOLEY, the well-known London "promoter," has been adjudged a bankrupt on his own petition. The following sketch of Mr. Hooley, the most adventurous and generally successful British financier of the day since Barnato's death, appeared in a London newspaper in 1896:

"I am a countryman," he declared. "I hate town life, and I hate town sharks, with their tricks and wiles. I stay in London as little as I can, and get out of it as soon as I am able; and but for the fact that I have to be on the spot to manage my affairs you would very seldom see me here. I am, I suppose, the largest sheep farmer in England, and I know every one of my 300 horses by sight."

Mr. Hooley was asked how he became a millionaire, and replied: "I cannot say that I was ever what you would call a poor man. Some people, I know, have an idea that I was one month in a back street and the next in a palace. This is altogether wrong. I come from a family of Nottingham lace manufacturers, and when I was twenty-two my mother left me £35,000. Since then I have lived at the rate of not less than £3,000 a year, which could be hardly called poverty. I started business as a stock-broker in Nottingham, and for some time made £20,000 a year. As a stock-broker I got into touch with a large connection of very rich people; I secured their confidence, and they have been the great factors in the success of the big schemes I have since carried through. When I issue a company I do not rely altogether on the outside public; my own circle controls between £15,000,000 and £20,000,000, and its support insures a thing going. It is a fact of which I make no secret that these friends get a share of my profits.

"While in Nottingham, I had to do with the initial steps of starting some companies, and I saw that the promoters made great profits. I asked myself why I should not do this work. Then a friend brought to my notice Humber shares which at that time were despised at 5½. I looked into them, was satisfied that they had a future, and bought largely until the shares went up to 24½. Then I reconstructed the company, making £365,000 out of the deal. Other cycling schemes followed, the biggest being the Dunlop tire deal. I bought Dunlops outright for £3,000,000, sold them to the present company for £5,000,000, and now they are worth £7,000,000.

"In the first place, I have no secrets; if I had I should want a staff of 200 clerks to keep my books. I have never been able yet to keep a secret, and never will. I say that the promoter is as much entitled to his profit and his money is as honestly earned as that of any other man. When a farmer buys a cow from me, cuts it up and resells it at a higher rate than he bought, he is entitled to make what he can; so am I when I buy and sell a company. I buy, say, for £2,000,000 and sell for £2,500,000, and I tell the public straight out that I am going to make something for myself out of the deal. I make it an absolute rule only to take up one concern at a time, and never to leave it till it is really on its legs. I am able to point back to all the things I have been associated with and say that there is not one of them but to-day is in a healthy state.

"The principles upon which I have acted have been two. First, I always mind my own business and look after it well. Then, I never touch anything that is out of my own line. If a man comes to me and says, 'Here is a good tip; act on it,' I do not listen to him. I confine myself to those things which I know, and act on my personal knowledge alone. For instance, I never speculated a single pound in mines, for I know nothing of them."

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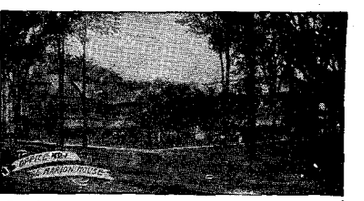

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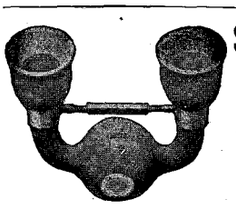

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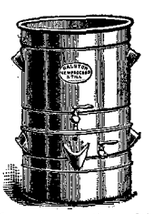

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Current Events.

Monday, June 6.

Señor Joaquin Francisco de Assiz, **the new Brazilian minister,** presents his credentials. . . . The **monitor** *Monadnock* is ordered from San Francisco to Manila. . . . Despatches from Cape Haytien state that the American war-ships have continued the **bombardment of Santiago.** . . . It is reported from Kingston, Jamaica, that 5,000 **United States troops were landed** near Santiago and joined General Garcia's insurgent army. . . . A Spanish vessel, reported to be the **torpedo-boat** *Terror*, is destroyed by the blockading fleet at Santiago. . . . Congress—Senate: The **urgent deficiency bill** carrying $17,750,000 is passed. House: The Senate **amendments to the war-revenue bill** are nonconcurred in, and the bill is sent to conference. . . . A bill is introduced directing the Secretary of the Navy to have prepared suitable **medals for Lieutenant Hobson and his crew.**

A **battle** is fought between the Spaniards and insurgents near Manila. It is reported that 1,800 Spaniards, including fifty officers, were taken **prisoners.** . . . London bankers "decide that **Spain is bankrupt.**" . . . General **Jimenes's filibustering expedition** to San Domingo fails, and several of his men are shot. . . . It is an-

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nounced in London that the **capital of China is to be removed** from Peking to Sian Fu.

Tuesday, June 7.

The Navy Department receives a despatch from Admiral Sampson saying that he has bombarded the **Santiago forts,** and silenced them. . . . The auxiliary **cruiser** *Buffalo*, formerly the *Nictheroy*, arrives at Newport News. . . . The **election in Oregon** results in a Republican majority of about 10,000. . . . Information reaches Washington that the French **cable between Santiago and Haiti** has been cut. . . . President McKinley signs the bill for the removal of all **political disabilities** arising from the Civil War. . . . Congress—Senate: The bills for the **protection of the Indian territory** and **post-office appropriation** are passed. House: The bill to permit **volunteer soldiers to vote** at congressional elections is passed. . . . The conference committee considers the Senate amendments to the **war-revenue bill.**

Aguinaldo, the insurgent leader in the Philippines, issues a proclamation expressing a desire to establish a native government under the protection of the United States. . . . **Anti-Orange riots** occur in Belfast, Ireland.

Wednesday, June 8.

A despatch from Cape Haytien says that five American ships bombarded the forts at **Caimanera** on the bay of Guantanamo, driving the Spaniards from their fortifications and demolishing them. . . . Ex-United States Senator Wm. A. **Peffer is nominated for governor of Kansas** by the Prohibition state convention. . . . The President nominates Charles P. Mattocks, of Maine, and Mark W. Sharfe, of South Dakota, to be **brigadier-generals.** . . . Congress—Senate: Bills to organize a **naval hospital corps** and to prepare for the **twelfth census** are passed House: Further conference with the Senate on the **sundry civil bill** is ordered. . . . An ineffectual effort is made to bring up the **Hawaiian annexation** for discussion.

Captain-General Augusti, of the Philippine Islands, notifies the Spanish Government that he is cut off from communication with the provinces, and he can not hope to hold out against the Americans and the insurgents very much longer. . . . It is admitted in Madrid that the Spanish cruiser *Reina Mercedes* **was sunk** in Santiago harbor. . . . John Morley, in a public speech, expresses his belief that any **alliance** of Great Britain with the United States "is unnecessary and undesirable." . . . Ernest Terah **Hooley,** the well-known English promoter, is declared **a bankrupt** on his own petition. . . . The **French ministry** place their resignations at the disposal of Premier Meline.

Thursday, June 9.

It is rumored that **a Spanish fleet** has run the blockade and entered the Havana harbor. . . . Admiral Sampson declares officially that the bombardment of Santiago was **to clear the way for troops.** . . . General Greely, chief signal officer, issues **an order to the cable companies** that hereafter no news concerning the movement of American vessels or American troops will be permitted to be sent to foreign countries. . . . The President nominates Brigadier-General **John P. S. Gobin,** of Pennsylvania National Guard, to be a brigadier-general of volunteers. . . . Ex-speaker of the House, **J. Warren Keifer,** of Ohio, is made a major-general of volunteers. . . . **The President pardons Captain John D. Hart,** now serving a sentence of two years for engaging in a filibustering expedition to Cuba. Congress—Senate: The **omnibus claims bill** is passed, also the bill to give **American registry** to six steamers of the Northern Pacific Steamship Company. . . . The nominations of **Joseph K. Weaver, John Guiteras,** and **R.S. Sutton,** to be chief surgeons of divisions is confirmed. House: The conference report on the **war-revenue bill** is adopted. **President Heureaux,** of San Domingo, in an interview, blames the American Government for the Jimenes revolutionary expedition. . . . A **rebellion** breaks out in Kwan-Tung, China. . . . It is reported that a number of **English capitalists,** who have large investments in the Philippines, have called upon Ambassador Hay, in London, to urge immediate and permanent occupation of the islands by the United States.

Friday, June 10.

The President nominates Charles F. Roe, of New York, and Thomas L. Rasser, of Virginia. to **be brigadier-generals.** . . . The nominations of Charles P. Mattox and Marx W. Sharfe to be brigadier-generals are confirmed. . . . Official reports from Havana state that the American ships **bombarded Biaquiri,** about twenty miles east of Santiago. . . . Judge Locke, in the United States court at Key West, decides that the cargo of the condemned **Spanish steamer** *Panama* is neutral property, and orders it released. Congress—Senate: The conference report on the **war-revenue bill is adopted** by a vote of 43 to 22, House: A bill to enable volunteers to vote at congressional elections is passed. An agreement is reached to consider and vote upon the **Newlands Hawaiian annexation** resolution.

General Blanco denies that the Spanish torpedo-boat destroyer *Terror* has been sunk.

Saturday, June 11.

A despatch from Haiti says that the American marines who landed at Guantanamo bay were **attacked by Spanish troops** and four killed. Spanish losses are said to have been heavy. . . . The British steamer *Trickenham*, laden with coal for Cervera's fleet, is **captured by the** *St. Louis* off Kingston. . . . The War Department denies the truth of the reports of **unprepared conditions at Tampa,** and friction at army and supply headquarters. Congress—House: Debate on the **Hawaian resolution** is begun, speeches in favor of annexation being made by Messrs. Hitt, Walker, Alexander, and Gillett, and in opposition by Messrs. Dinsmore and Champ Clarke.

The **Japanese diet,** having rejected the Government's land taxation proposals, is dissolved. . . . The **Spanish Foreign Minister reports** as to the progress of his conferences with the ambassadors of the powers; it is understood that nothing definite has been arrived at.

Sunday, June 12.

The **Spanish torpedo-boat** *Terror* is reported at San Juan with her boilers broken down. . . . The **marines at Guantanamo bay are engaged** for thirteen hours by the Spanish guerillas, who are finally forced to retreat.

Rear-Admiral Beresford issues an appeal for **an increase of the British navy.** . . . An imperial edict provides for the establishment of **a university at Peking** on European models. . . . It is announced that the **Anglo-French Niger boundary dispute** is practically settled; France gets two outlets for trade, and England gains some territory on the "Gold Coast."

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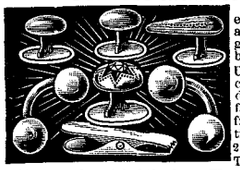

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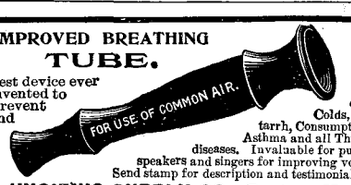

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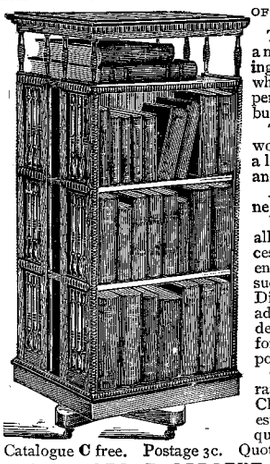

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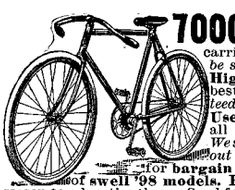

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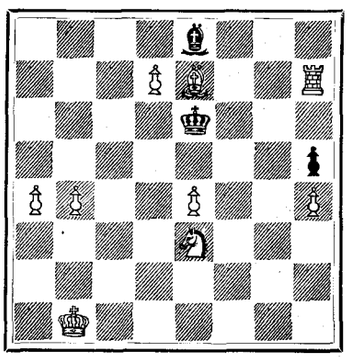
Problem 292.

BY H. W. SHERRARD AND H. F. L. MEYER.

(A most remarkable composition.)

Black—Three Pieces.



White—Nine Pieces.

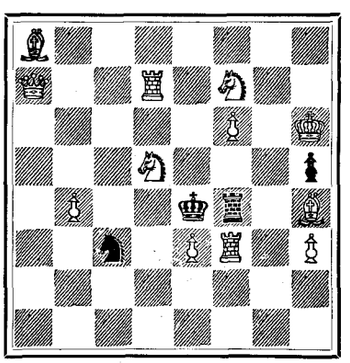
White mates in three moves.

Problem 293.

BY M. ANDREW.

A First-Prize Irish Problem.

Black—Four Pieces.



White—Twelve Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

Solution of Problems.

NO. 286.

1. Q—K 8 / K x R	2. Kt—Q 3 ch / K—B 6 must	3. B—Q 5, mate	
1. ..... / K x P	2. Q—Q Kt 8 / K—Q 3	3. B—B 8, mate	
	2. ..... / Any other	3. Q—Kt 6, mate	
1. ..... / R—B 6	2. Q—K 6 / K x R	3. Kt—Q 3, mate	
	2. ..... / K x P	3. Q x Kt 6, mate	
	2. ... ... / R x R	3. Q—Q 5, mate	
1. ..... / P—B 5	2. Q—B 6 / P x R	3. Q—Q 5, mate	
	2. ..... / K x R	3. Kt—Kt 4, mate	

Other variations depend on those given.

Solution received from M. W. H., University of Virginia; H. W. Barry, Boston; the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa.; C. F. Putney, Independence, Ia.; F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.; C. R. Oldham, Moundsville, W. Va.; R. Toomer, Dardanelle, Ark.; Dr. W. S. Frick, Philadelphia.

Comments: "A fine, difficult problem"—M. W. H.; "On close examination, one sees the solid worth of this composition"—H. W. B.; "A royal dose of Jamaica ginger"—I. W. B.; "A first-class problem, but hardly what I expected"—C. F. P.; "A first-class piece of work"—F. H. J.; "Deep and ingenious"—C. R. O.; "A beauty, and entitled to the prize"—R. T.

This problem received for Ideas 14½ points, for Method 13, for Economy 13, for Difficulty 13, out of 20 points for each. For Original of Arrangement 8, and Correctness 8, out of a possible 10 points for each, or a total of 70 points out of a possible 100. The Judges speak of it as "A very fine massive problem of marked Teutonic type."

It will be seen that the large majority of our solvers are conspicuous by the absence of their names in the list of those who mastered it. Very many, evidently, did not attempt to solve it, or gave it up as too difficult. Several went astray with Q—K 7, which is defeated by P—B 5.

NO. 287.

1. Kt—K 4 / K—Q 4	2. Q—Q 2 ! ch / B x Q	3. B—Kt 8 mate
	2. ..... / K—K 3	3. Q—R 2, mate
1. ..... / K—Q 6	2. Q—B 3 ch / B x Q	3. Kt—B 5, mate
1. ..... / K—Kt 6	2. Q—B 3 ch / K x R	3. Q—B 2, mate
	2. ..... / B x Q	3. Kt—B 5 mate
1. ..... / P—B 6	2. Q—Q 2 / Any	3. Q—R 2, or B—Kt 8 mate

Solution received from those who got 286, and C. W. C., Pittsburg; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.

Comments: "Superb"—M. W. H.; "A great flight-squarer"—H. W. B.; "A thoroughly ripe and juicy Lemon"—I. W. B.; "I found it more difficult to solve, and think it a more brilliant problem than 286"—C. F. P.; "Good. We'll take this Lemon without sugar"—F. H. J.; "Very neat and interesting"—C. R. O.; "One is likely to overlook the power of the Rook and be confused as to second move"—R. T.; "An elegant composition"—C. W. C.; "A good idea, well worked out. Courtenay Lemon is one of the growing men"—F. S. F.

T. H. Varner, Des Moines, and H. V. Fitch, Omaha, were successful with 284. Medora Darr, Finleyville, Pa., got 282 and 283. Prof P. H. Crafton, Plattsburg, Mo., sent solution of 279, and W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla., 282.

National Correspondence Chess-Association.

One year's play shows that six of the eight divisions have finished the preliminary play. In the Eastern Division, the players who will meet in the Finals are as follows:

	Won.	Lost.
T. C. McIlwaine, Plattsburg, N. Y.	7	0
H. Helms, Brooklyn, N. Y.	5	2
E. L. Massett, Manhattan, N. Y.	4	3
J. H. Dahms, College Point, L. I.	4	3
H. Saunders, Manhattan, N. Y.	6	2
Prof. R. B. Lloyd, Trenton, N. J.	5½	2½
S. H. Chadwick, Brooklyn, N. Y.	5	3
Dr. King, Brooklyn, N. Y.	4½	3½
F. B. Walker, Washington, D. C.	6	2
A. E. Swaffield, Brooklyn, N. Y.	6	2
C. S. Taber, Brooklyn, N. Y.	5	3
J. V. Nourse, Elizabeth, N. J.	4	4
M. Lissner, Manhattan, N. Y.	7½	1½
W. E. Napier, Brooklyn, N. Y.	5½	1½
B. C. Selover, Brooklyn, N. Y.	6½	2½
C. S. Wilmarth, St. Mary's, Pa.	5½	2½

In the New York *Tribune* Correspondence Tourney, Dr. J. T. Wright, Hulmeville, Pa., has finished the preliminary games with a score of six wins and no losses.

The Correspondence Tourney.

We have received several answers to the query whether or not White can win in the 64th Correspondence Game. The bulk of opinion gives a Draw. Mr. E. B. Escott quotes from Mason's "Art of Chess," showing that Black can draw by keeping "the opposition." On the other hand, Prof. Hitchcock, who managed the White forces, believes that White can win by K—B 4, "thus getting," to quote his words, "the opposition." Mr. A. B. Coats, Beverly, Mass., send an analysis extending to 12 moves to show that White can win. It is the opinion of the Chess-Editor that the best that can be made of the position is a Draw.

SIXTY-SEVENTH GAME.

Ruy Lopez.

THE REV. H. W. KNOX, Belmont, N. Y.	THE REV. A. C. KAYE, Jefferson, Ia.	THE REV. H. W. KNOX.	THE REV. A. C. KAYE.
White.	*Black.*	*White.*	*Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	13 B x B	Kt x B
2 Kt—K B 3	Kt—Q B 3	14 B—K 3	P—B 5
3 B—Kt 5	P—Q R 3	15 Kt—Q 4	Kt—Q B 4 (g)
4 B—R 4	P—K Kt 3 (a)	16 Castles	R—Q B sq (h)
5 P—Q 4 (b)	P x P	17 P—K B 4	Castles
6 Kt x P	B—Kt 2	18 Q—B 2 (i)	R—K sq
7 P—Q B 3(c)	K Kt—K 2	19 P—B 5	Kt—Q 6
8 B-K Kt 5 (d)	P—Q Kt 4	20 P—Q R 4	R—Kt sq
9 B—Kt 3 (e)	Kt—R 4	21 R—B 3	Q—B sq
10 Kt—Q 2	P—Q B 4	22 P—Q Kt 4	P—Q 4
11 B—Q 5	B—Kt 2	23 B P x P	R P x P
12 Kt (Q 4)— Kt 3 (f)	P—K B 3	24 R—K R 3	Q—Q 2
		25 P x Q P	Kt x P
		26 B R 6	B x B
		27 R x B	K—Kt 2
		28 Resigns (j)	

Notes by One of the Judges.

(a) When Black purposes to play the Barnes Defense, which consists of P—K Kt 3, followed by B—Kt 2, he should begin this on his 3d move.

(b) Premature. Castles is the accepted play, but "Hobart," in the *B. C. M.*, gives as the best move for White P—Q B 3, followed by P—Q 4. The text-move allows Black to develop and attack the Queen's side at the same time.

(c) If he had played this on his 5th move, he could have played 6 P x P, with a better game.

(d) The pinning of the Kt accomplishes nothing. Castles is indicated.

(e) A lost move. Should go to B 2.

(f) The attempt to win a piece does not work.

(g) Well played, as he gets on Q 6 and can not be dislodged without trouble for White.

(h) Another good move. Hardly apparent at first sight, but it brings a strong pressure on a weak spot.

(i) Not to be commended. It were better to bring the Q on the K side.

(j) There is no possible hope for White. In opening Black's K R file (23), and in allowing Kt to get on Q 4 (25) White simply committed suicide.

The Vienna Tournament.

At the time of going to press we have received the results of 8 rounds. The game between Schlechter and Pillsbury was adjourned to the following day, the game, however, being much in Pillsbury's favor. The score follows:

	Won.	Lost.		Won.	Lost.
Alapin	6½	1½	*Pillsbury	5½	1½
Baird	2	6	Schiffers	4½	3½
Blackburne	3½	4½	*Schlechter	3	4
Burn	5	3	Schwarz	½	7½
Caro	2	6	Showalter	4	4
Halprin	3	5	Steinitz	4½	3½
Janowski	5	3	Tarrasch	6½	1½
Lipke	3½	4½	Trenchard	1½	6½
Marco	3½	4½	Tschigorin	4½	3½
Maroczy	5	3	Walbrodt	5½	2½

*Adjourned game in hand.

In speaking of the Vienna Tournament *The B.C. M.* remarks: "We have the curious spectacle of a contest in which nearly all the world's strongest players are taking part, but the world's Champion is not one of them."

Answers to Correspondents.

R. C. S.—There is a difference between what is known as the Scotch Gambit and the Scotch Game or Opening. The moves are 1 P—K 4, P—K 4; 2 Kt—K B 3, Kt—Q B 3; 3 P—Q 4, P x P. If White plays 4 B—Q B 4 we have the Gambit, if 4 Kt x P it is the Scotch Opening. This Gambit and Opening was noticed as early as A.D. 1750, and was called the Queen's Pawn Game. In a match by correspondence (1824–1826) between the Chess-players of London and Edinburgh, the Scotch players used this opening with signal success, and since that time Scotland has been honored in Chess literature by this opening.

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